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Docomo to lay down new undersea fiber optic cable

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
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REPORTER

Telecommunications company Docomo Pacific formally announced to the community their project to lay down a new undersea fiber optic cable and has signed a memorandum of understanding with the administration.

» MOU with administration signed; CNMI govt to invest $3M

The "state-of-the-art six fiber pair optical fiber submarine cable system"—which was given the name "Atisa" meaning "increase"—will

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FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON

Docomo Pacific unveiled to the CNMI community its project to build a new undersea fiber optic cable, which will be named "Atisa." A memorandum of understanding was signed between Docomo and the government, with the latter to invest $3 million in the project. Photos shows Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Lt. Gov. Victor Hocog clasping hands with Docomo executives, led by president and chief executive officer John Kriegel, during the anouncement of the project.

USPS: No substantial backlog of CNMI mail in Guam

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
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REPORTER

» United Airlines: Report was 'erroneous, irresponsible'

The U.S Postal Service said there is no "substantial" backlog of Saipan-bound mail in Guam, while United Airlines said they are on schedule with their deliveries.

Responding to *Saipan Tribune* inquiries after a concerned resident aired his distress to the media last weekend, USPS corporate communications specialist Duke Gonzales said they are timely in their delivery of mail.

"There's no substantial backlog of CNMI mail in Guam. We continue to process and deliver mail in CNMI in a timely manner," Gonzales said, when asked for comment if there are thousands of lbs of mail sitting in Guam.

Last Sunday, Saipan resident Philip Dauterman told the media that he called the Chalan Kanoa office of USPS and was told that "United Airlines has 14,000 lbs of

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Hillary or Bernie?

CNMI Democratic caucus tomorrow

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

Ahead of the Northern Marianas Democratic Party caucus tomorrow, the choices have been clear for some time: hoarse-throated, self-proclaimed enemy of Wall Street, Sen. Bernie Sanders, or former secretary of state, establishment favorite, and potential first woman president Hillary Clinton, for the

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The Pacific Century Fellows Marianas Chapter conducted its third annual Selection Saturday event on March 5.

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LOCAL
Kagman High School scholars and the larger KHS community extend their gratitude to Triple J Enterprises, Inc.

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Local

Torres says CUC board should make decision on IRP 'soon'

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
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REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres will be meeting with board members of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. next week to get updates on the utilities company's Integrated Resource Plan.

Torres

According to Torres, the last time he had an update with the CUC board was "about a month ago."

"I know that they are going to be making some adjustments. We'll be meeting them sometime next week," Torres said.

» Purchasing of new generators being looked at

When asked if he is giving the board a timeline or pressure in making a decision on the IRP—which was supposed help CUC "choose feasible, cost-effective, and reliable resources for their power generation and has been in the works since 2014—Torres said it should not be "this year" but "soon."

However, Torres also said he wanted the board to think of the best decision.

"I want to give them the opportunity to do what is best," Torres said. "There is a short- and long-term goal. This is very critical. I don't want to force them to make decisions that are not well thought out."

"We continue to look into it in detail. Once the decision is made, then we'll expedite the course of action," he added.

Torres said they are also looking into buying new generators for CUC.

"I want to get brand new generators. I want to increase our engines up to 50 megawatt. We're looking into purchasing generators and we're seeing what's available out there," Torres said.

Asked where they will get the money for additional generators, Torres said they will look at funding opportunities such as the mitigation program of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, loans, bonding, or even the private sector if they can contribute.

"Our end goal is to provide utilities that are cheaper and more efficient engines," Torres said.

He added that new developments coming online that will be hooking up with CUC is also a concern.

"We are concerned that's why it's a great opportunity for them to build up after Typhoon Soudelor and working together with the private sector," Torres said.

Torres also said that he met with CUC acting executive director Gary Camacho to discuss the water status in the CNMI particularly in Saipan.

"We want to have a blueprint of where we're at," Torres said.

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Judge rules NMC allowed to pay 20 pct employer contributions

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood yesterday ruled that the Northern Marianas College is allowed to pay a 20 percent accrued employer contributions rate instead of 30 percent that the government and autonomous agencies have been paying.

Tydingco-Gatewood denied NMI Settlement Fund trustee Joyce C. H. Tang's motion to enforce the settlement agreement in Betty Johnson's class action, which requests a court order that the NMC pay a 30 percent accrued employer contributions.

Tydingco-Gatewood said in interpreting the settlement agreement, the court must confine its inquiry to the four corners of the agreement.

"Doing so, the court finds that Section 5.0 of the Settlement Agreement is plain and unambiguous," she said.

The judge said the autonomous agencies were required to pay accrued employer contributions "rates they were paying as of June 26, 2013."

Tydingco-Gatewood said NMC is paying a 20 percent accrued employer contributions rate as of June 26, 2013.

In concurring with NMC's position, Tydingco-Gatewood said the settlement agreement supersedes the requirement of the CNMI law that the autonomous agencies shall pay the same accrued employer contributions as the CNMI government.

The judge pointed out that the settlement agreement only requires the autonomous agencies to pay the accrued employer contributions rates each was paying as of June 26, 2013.

Tydingco-Gatewood said while trustee Tang and Johnson class counsel believe that applying the plain meaning to Section 5.0 of the settlement agreement would lead to unfairness because the settlement class would essentially be subsidizing NMC, the court does not believe this result—while unintended by the trustee and class counsel—to be absurd, irrational, or wildly unreasonable.

The facts show, Tydingco-Gatewood said, that NMC had been treated differently in the past with regard to accrued employer contributions payments, and that not all government agencies were paying the same rate.

Thus, she said, it is not unreasonable to expect the NMI to continue paying the 20 percent accrued employer contributions rate it was paying as of June 26, 2013.

"This is what the plain meaning of the Settlement Agreement requires," the judge said.

In the motion, trustee Tang asked the court to compel NMC to comply with the settlement agreement by paying accrued employer contributions and penalties in the amount of $75,080.79. Tang also requested the court to order NMC to pay all future accrued employer contributions at the rate of 30 percent.

The trustee asserted that the applicable accrued employer contributions rate referred to in Section 5.0 in the settlement agreement was the 30 percent rate established by Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo's Aug. 22, 2011, order.

In 2010, the actuary recommended an employer contribution rate of 72.7215 percent.

In his Aug. 22 order, Govendo reduced the employer contribution rate to 30 percent because the CNMI government had fallen behind on its obligations.

The trustee contended "it was the intent of the parties that all government agencies would pay the same rate."

The trustee further argued that the plain language of Section 5.0 in the settlement agreement does not permit the

See JUDGE on Page 4

Crime Stoppers' tip led to arrest of man who allegedly sexually abused 2 minors

A Crime Stoppers' tip led to the arrest on Wednesday night in Koblerville of a 32-year-old man who allegedly sexually abused two minor girls then fled to Guam.

Sidney A. Aldan was arrested for sexual assault in the first degree, sexual abuse of a minor in the second degree, assault and battery, and disturbing the peace.

At a hearing yesterday, Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo imposed a $30,000 cash bail and set the preliminary hearing for March 14 at 9am.

Assistant public defender Matthew Meyer was appointed as counsel for Aldan. Assistant attorney general Heather Barcinas appeared for the government.

Police Detective Catherine B. Pangelinan stated in her report that on Wednesday, Police Officer Jason Tarkong informed her of a Crime Stoppers' tip about sexual abuse of minor involving multiple victims.

Pangelinan said with the assistance of Division of Youth Services, they conducted separate interviews with the two minor girls that same day.

Pangelinan said according to one girl, Aldan has been sexually abusing her since she was in first grade and that the last incident was when she was in fourth grade.

The detective said according to the second girl, Aldan touched her private parts thrice.

The second girl claimed that the first victim once wrote a letter to her, saying Aldan touched her private parts.

The second girl said her mother found the letter and confronted her if Aldan was also sexually abusing her.

The second girl said she cried and told her mother the truth.

She said her mother then talked with Aldan and then called the police.

She said Aldan, however, then fled to Guam.

The second girl said that last year Aldan came back from Guam.

She said Aldan apologized to her and asked forgiveness for what he had done a couple of years ago. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

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DOCOMO

From Page 1

literally connect all three islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota to Guam and will measure approximately 175 miles in length.

Docomo Pacific president and chief executive officer John Kriegel led the presentation of the $25-million project before the various public agencies and members of the business community yesterday at the Fiesta Resort and Spa.

Kriegel said he was frustrated that he wasn't able to do the improvements in the CNMI when he came for the first time two years ago and saw that Docomo only has 2G connectivity.

"But Mother Nature intervened last year," Kriegel said, reminding the public of the cable cut that happened in July of last year after Typhoon Dolphin and the devastation of Typhoon Soudelor.

Kriegel said those events have highlighted the real need for another undersea cable in the CNMI, which also led to the Legislature passing a resolution supporting and empowering Docomo to rebuild and harden the CNMI's telecommunication infrastructure.

"The call to action was really the Legislature," Kriegel said.

In an interview, Kriegel said the increased bandwidth that the new cable will bring means that Docomo will be able to bring all of the services that they offer in Guam to the CNMI such as LTE mobile networks on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota, high definition cable television, an increase number of channels to 160, and faster and more reasonably priced Internet.

FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON

Docomo Pacific's new undersea fiber optic cable will connect the islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota to Guam and is targeted to come online in 2017. The $25-million projected is said to bring substantial bandwidth comparable to Guam and the U.S. mainland.

Kriegel said it will provide "real time streaming services that you would expect to have in Guam or in the mainland United States."

The whole project will cost about $25 million which will also include building redundant microwave backup system also connecting Saipan to Tinian, Tinian to Rota, and then Rota to Guam, and expanding and fixing their mobile networks in all three islands.

Project timeline

Kriegel said Atisa should come online in the first half of 2017.

"Permitting is the part of the process that takes the absolute longest," Kriegel said, adding that it takes about 12 months to do the permitting because they would have to coordinate with the CNMI, Guam, and federal governments.

"You have to know exactly where the cable will land on all four islands. We have just started and in the process of finishing that up within the next couple of weeks," Kriegel said.

He added that the actual laying of the cable will only take less than three weeks.

"One of the important features of the cable in order to provide real redundancy to the people of the CNMI, is to have diverse landing points so we'll have diverse route underwater, we'll have our electronics, cable landing station equipment in diverse areas," Kriegel said.

"Some natural disaster should strike, something should befall one cable, then the other cable should be operational," he added.

Docomo has partnered with NEC Corporation from Japan as their technology partner.

According to NEC Corp. submarine network division general manager Naoki Yoshida, the high-speed technology means that the cable will bring means that data can travel over 200,000 kilometers per second.

"I hope that all of the people here please continue to pressure NEC and one year later, we'll be happy to report about the success of the business," Yoshida said.

NTT Docomo managing director for global business division Koichi Takahara thanked the CNMI for the opportunity to make a difference.

"There are few places like this in the world for us to use our technology to make such a big impact so to be given the chance to change the way this community is communicating to the world, is a once in a lifetime opportunity that we are truly grateful for," Takahara said.

"We're really excited to be pursuing this project. A project of this complexity and of this scope requires real partnership and we really have that with the government of the CNMI," Kriegel said.

$3 million

As part of the memorandum of understanding between Docomo and the CNMI government, the administration will be contributing $3 million to help the telecom with the project.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres said they have not determined yet where the money will come from, but they are looking at providing about $1 million a year to assist Docomo in one way or another.

"For sure," Torres said when asked if it is a worthy investment, "After our experience last year, we want to provide our community, our business community, our residents, options and services that will assist in our livelihood so that our economy can grow, and also our education sector. This would definitely help our education system."

Torres added that this provides an opportunity to open up the market and that if another entity is coming in, they are welcome.

"This does not stop any other company, obviously we have IT&E. We are also supporting them, we have our contract agreement, we're going to abide by that," Torres said.

USPS

From Page 1

Saipan-bound mail delayed at the Guam airport and unable to send to Saipan in a timely manner."

He was concerned about several packages that as per the online tracking were scanned in Guam last month but "seemingly disappeared."

USPS said they are coordinating with customers regarding specific concerns.

"We are working directly with the customer to resolve their concern," Gonzales said.

However, no reason was given regarding the cause of the holdup of certain mail or packages.

"The Postal Service manages large volumes of mail destined to and from Guam and Saipan. Our goal is to deliver the best possible service to all of our customers, including those in that area," he added.

For their part, United Airlines also responded to *Saipan Tribune* saying that they are on time in their transportation of mail.

"United Airlines works diligently to transport and deliver mail in a timely manner between Guam and Saipan. Once mail is received by the United cargo team, each piece of mail is quickly scanned and the shipment is prepared for delivery to Saipan. All mail is sent via aircraft within 24 hours of receipt," United Corporate Communications said.

It added that they have not experienced any recent delays and that the report made was "erroneous and irresponsible."

"United Airlines has not experienced any recent delays in the transport or delivery of mail between Guam and Saipan. United continues to operate the mail service as regularly scheduled. Any reporting contrary to this fact is erroneous and irresponsible," United said.

It was not made clear by both entities how many lbs of mail can be brought in to Saipan from Guam per flight or per day.

JUDGE

From Page 3

NMC to pay a lower rate than other government agencies.

The NMC, on the other hand, through counsel Mark Scoggins, asserted that the plain language of the settlement agreement controls, and it is from this language that the court may find the intent of the parties.

Scoggins argued that if it were truly the intent of the parties that autonomous agencies would pay the same accrued employer contributions rate, then the drafters of the agreements should have used the term "rate"—singular—as opposed to the terms "rates" as used in the settlement agreement.

Scoggins noted that the drafters of the settlement agreement were aware that autonomous agencies were not all paying the 30 percent rate the trustee insists is required.

HILLARY

From Page 1

party's presidential candidate come the November election.

The Northern Marianas Democratic Party holds its Saipan caucus tomorrow, Saturday, March 12, at Saipan World Resort's Royal Taga Ballroom. Registration for the caucus will start at 6pm.

"We hope that Democrats and people interested in participating in the Democratic Party process turn out on Saturday," said Brian Flaherty, a local volunteer helping organizeng tomorrow's caucus.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP), for his part, reiterated his support of Clinton as "the only candidate" who would recognize the importance of Asian Pacific Americans in a statement yesterday. Sablan believes Clinton's "practical problem-solving and experience" is needed for the long list of health care, the military, and labor force issues affecting the islands.

Rep. Edwin Propst (Ind-Saipan), though, is "feeling the Bern" as in Bernie Sanders.

"Why Bernie? I think he stands for a lot of things that I firmly believe in. As a college graduate, I know what is like to be in debt. I am still paying my college loans. I like the fact that he embraces the notion that we need to invest in our youth, in our young minds. And we are not a socialist country just because we are going to fund public colleges. We are already funding public schools, so what really is the difference? It is just an extension of that."

"It's being done in many different countries," Propst added. "They are investing in young minds."

Propst also tips his hat to Sander's pledge to improve health care. "We've seen improvements that the Affordable Care Act has done, he said, referring to President Barack Obama's sweeping health care initiative. "I think that Bernie's health care plans go a step further. And anybody that believes it is socialist or communist simply has to do some basic research and look at the rest of the world's countries."

"I believe in him because he has the heart, he's been consistent and he is a passionate and caring. He is only going to war as last resort and explore all the avenues of diplomacy before ever even considering that."

But whoever does win the election come November, Propst prays the CNMI is "not forgotten."

"We are an extension, a territory, a Commonwealth of the United States. Our needs are just as great as any town in the mainland," Propst said.

"I am totally with Bernie but if someone is choosing Hilary, I am perfectly fine with that," Propst said. "Just as long as it's not [Donald] Trump or [Sen. Ted] Cruz [the Republican Party candidates]. That's the only thing that would be most devastating."

Local attorney Janet King, the representative of the CNMI for Hillary Clinton campaign, said she supports Clinton "because of her long history of experience and sound policy ideas."

"She is smart," King said, "and her plans and proposals are achievable.

"We can't afford someone like Senator Bernie Sanders who may sound like he has good ideas, but his plans on how to achieve them are just not realistic," King added. "That's the difference between Hillary and Mr. Sanders. I choose Hillary."

"Our great nation," King said, "is getting ready to elect its 45th president, and I hope that the American people elect Hillary Clinton as our first woman president!"

Stephen Woodruff, the NMI authorized representative for the Bernie Sanders presidential campaign, told *Saipan Tribune* that the short answer to "Why Bernie?" is because "He is the is the candidate with the best vision of what America can and should be, and also the candidate with the best prospects of defeating whoever is the Republican candidate in November."

Woodruff says Sanders has the highest favorable rating of any candidate in either party and the lowest unfavorable rating, and does not have the negatives and vulnerabilities Clinton has. And that in head-to-head polling matchups with possible Republican candidates, Sanders consistently performs better than Clinton, beating every possible Republican candidate by wide margins.

Sanders also recognizes that climate change poses an existential threat to the entire human species, Woodruff added. "Sanders wants to eliminate the use of fossil fuels and opposes environmentally dangerous practices like fracking and the Keystone XL pipeline."

"He is against bad trade deals," Woodruff and, "like the Transpacific Partnership (TPP) that major corporations negotiated in secret for their own benefit.

"He knows we must regulate "Wall Street" and do away with "too big to fail," Woodruff said. "He knows how corporate welfare and crony capitalism are destroying the American economy and the American middle class. He will work tirelessly to remove the corrupting influence of money from American politics and government.

"Sander knows that America is made less, not more, secure by military adventurism," Woodruff said. And unlike Clinton, Woodruff said Sanders voted against "the disastrous Iraq war that cost us a trillion dollars, thousands of American lives."

Kilili makes case for Clinton ahead of Democratic caucus

Sablan

In a statement yesterday Delegate Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan (Ind-MP) made the case for the Northern Marianas Democratic Party to choose Hillary Clinton for President at Saturday's caucus meetings on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

"When Hillary Clinton launched her Asian Pacific Americans campaign initiative earlier this year, I was on hand in California to give my support to her. Secretary Clinton is the only candidate for the Democratic nomination to recognize the importance of Asian Pacific Americans in this way. And at the Democratic Party caucuses here on Saturday, I believe that we Pacific Americans should recognize that Hillary Clinton is the person best qualified to be our next President," said Sablan.

He said the Marianas has a long list of issues that it needs to work on with the federal government over the coming four years: improving health care, making sure the military respects our islands, building a durable labor force to support our economy, and always finding ways to support the education of our children.

"These are not easy issues. They will require the kind of experience and practical problem solving that Hillary Clinton is known for."

Sablan said participation in the national political conventions that choose Presidential candidates is one of the most important ways that the people of the Marianas can make their voice heard on the national stage.

"The votes of our delegates are the equal of the votes of delegates from anywhere else in America. So, I urge Democrats in our islands to go to the party caucuses this Saturday and help choose the next President of the United States: Hillary Rodham Clinton," said Sablan.

People of the Northern Mariana Islands and AAPIs throughout America can find out more by contacting Asian Americans & Pacific Islanders for Hillary, AAPI-Outreach@HillaryClinton.com. ***(PR)***

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CPA, Lizama receive ESGR awards

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Ports Authority and its top official have received Department of Defense awards from the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve.

The awards are given by ESGR to recognize employers who support their Guard and Reserve employees.

CPA received the ESGR's "Above and Beyond Award" through the nomination of firefighter John Aguon of the Saipan ARFF Department.

This award is presented by ESGR State Committees to "recognize employers at the local level who have gone above and beyond the legal requirements of the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA) by providing their Guard and Reserve Employees additional, non-mandated benefits such as differential or full pay to offset lost wages, extended health benefits, and other similar health benefits."

The award is given in limited numbers and is a progressive award, meaning an employer must have had at least one supervisor or other representative honored with a Patriot Award, for example.

CPA executive director MaryAnn Lizama was awarded the Patriot Award, which is given to individual employers and not to an organization as a whole.

Lizama was also nominated by Aguon.

According to ESGR, the Patriot Award "reflects the efforts made to support Citizen Warriors through a wide-range of measures including flexible schedules, time off prior to and after deployment, caring for families, and granting leaves of absence if needed."

"I am very honored and surprised," Lizama said, "The men and women that are in the service, they are well-respected and honored especially in the CPA. We extend our appreciation and we show them support."

She added that they have about 10 reserves working for CPA.

Habitual offender arrested anew, this time for allegedly beating up his two children

Habitual offender Mario Muna Reyes was arrested again on Wednesday night in As Perdido for allegedly beating up his two minor children.

Reyes, 46, was arrested on charges of child abuse, assault and battery, and disturbing the peace.

At a hearing yesterday, Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo imposed a $10,000 cash bail.

Preliminary hearing will be on March 14 at 9am.

Assistant public defender Matthew Meyer was appointed as counsel for Reyes. Assistant attorney general Heather Barcinas appeared for the government.

Police Detective Peter A. Aldan stated in his report that two police officers responded to the Reyes' family compound in As Lito after the Department of Public Safety Central received a call about a child abuse incident on Friday night.

When the officers arrived, they observed the two minors and their mother all appeared terrified.

Reyes was not at the scene after he fled to the back of the house then climbed on top of the roof at a neighbor's house.

Aldan said investigation showed that Reyes called his son, who was at their neighbor's house, and confronted him for not putting the trashcan back in its place.

When the boy put the trash can in its place, Reyes asked if he was joking with him.

Reyes then allegedly kicked the trashcan and struck his son in the lower part of his face with his right palm and with an Armor All bottle on the right face.

Reyes later turned to his daughter, told her she's very lazy, then slapped her on the face. He grabbed her hair, lifted her off the floor, and slammed her down on the couch.

The girl's head struck the frame of the couch, causing her to feel dizzy and fall off the couch. He then slapped her again while she was still on the floor, police said.

When his girlfriend came out of the room, Reyes shouted at her to go back inside or else he would beat her up too.

The daughter made an excuse to go buy ice, but called the police from her grandmother's house.

In July 2011, Superior Court Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja slapped Reyes with two years and six months in prison for violating probation conditions.

"Your prior convictions are overwhelming!" Naraja told Reyes.

Then assistant attorney general Shelli Neal described Reyes as a batterer and violent man and that placing him on probation does not work. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Rotary to host 2 visiting Japanese students

The Rotary Club of Saipan will be hosting two visiting students from Japan as part of their youth exchange program from one of their sister club.

The two students, who are both in junior high school, are scheduled to arrive on March 27 and will spend the whole week learning about the local culture and doing some community service.

Both students will also get the chance to meet and join the Interact clubs of Kagman High School and Marianas High School for two days each.

Watching the magic show at Sandcastle, experiencing the Thursday Street Market, seeing other cultural shows, and joining a bus stop repair and repainting are some of the activities that Rotary has lined up for the two students.

"We will have them join the Rotary's community service during their free time and we are still open for other ideas to make their stay here memorable," said Saipan Rotary president Curtis Dancoe during the club's meeting last Tuesday at Hyatt Regency Saipan's Giovanni's restaurant.

They will also get their Interact and Rotaract members involved with the activities. The issue on accommodation is the only thing that the Rotary is finalizing.

"We're going to find a host family and a safe environment for the two girls," said Dancoe. ***(Jon Perez)***

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Psychiatric test on habitual offender who allegedly stole judge's gun OK'd

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona has granted the U.S. government's motion to conduct a psychiatric or psychological evaluation on Cling Philip Kaipat, a habitual offender who is facing charges for possession of a gun and ammunition that he stole from the house of Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo.

In a written order issued on Wednesday, Manglona said in aid of determining whether Kaipat is competent to stand at trial, she ordered that a psychiatric or psychological evaluation be conducted and that such report be filed with the court.

A hearing to determine Kaipat's competency will be scheduled after the report is received.

A status conference will be held on May 11, 2016 at 1:30pm.

At a hearing on Tuesday, Kaipat's court-appointed counsel, Colin Thompson, did not oppose the U.S. government's motion for evaluation to determine whether the defendant is competent to stand at trial.

Thompson said the court had sufficient information based on public record of Kaipat's involuntary commitment and the limited medical records to grant the motion.

Manglona inquired with the parties regarding the defendant being held under local custody.

Assistant U.S. attorney Russell H. Lorfing informed the court that he spoke with Thompson regarding this issue, and that he was also informed by the chief prosecutor of the Office of the Attorney General that their office was willing to allow Kaipat to enter into federal custody while he is being treated or the evaluation is being conducted.

Manglona advised Thompson to coordinate with his counterpart in the Superior Court proceeding and have this resolved.

Kaipat was remanded into the custody of the U.S. Marshal.

In the U.S. government's motion, Lorfing requested the court to commit Kaipat to the custody of the Office of the Attorney General for placement in a facility in order to be evaluated by a psychiatrist or psychologist who will determine whether he is presently suffering from a mental disease or defect rendering him incompetent to stand trial.

Lorfing said there is evidence suggesting that Kaipat may have mental issues.

The indictment charged the 19-year-old Kaipat with possession of a stolen firearm and possession of ammunition.

According to the indictment, Kaipat unlawfully possessed a 9mm Smith and Wesson pistol, "which had been shipped and transported in interstate commerce" knowing that the firearm was stolen.

Kaipat also allegedly possessed a stolen hollow point 9mm round of ammunition.

At a preliminary hearing in November 2015, Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho found probable cause to charge Kaipat with burglary, theft, and criminal mischief over the burglary at Govendo's house.

Govendo was off-island when the burglary happened.

After police identified Kaipat as the suspect through a surveillance camera, the defendant then reportedly guided investigators to a trash bin at a bakery where he hid the stolen gun. Detectives recovered the judge's police-issued 9mm pistol. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

2016 NMI DEMOCRATIC PARTY CAUCUS

WHEN: March 12, 2016
START TIME: 6:00 P.M.
LOCATION:

Saipan:
World Resort Royal Taga Ballroom
(*change from earlier announcement)

Tinian:
Residence of Mr. David Cing
San Jose, Tinian
(Marpo Valley located next to Carolinas Hill;
Canal St. runs into entrance to Marpo Valley)

Rota:
Residence of Mr. Thomas A. Manglona
Miling Kata An, Rota

The CNMI Democratic Party requests all interested Democrats to participate in the 2016 NMI Democratic Party Caucus.

Member registration will start from 6:00PM to 7:00PM followed by Introduction of the event, speeches, voting of Presidential Preference, nomination of NMI Democratic Party Central Executive Committee Board of Directors and voting of delegates.

Please bring your voter registration card if you have one.

PCF Marianas Chapter selects Class of 2016

The Pacific Century Fellows Marianas Chapter conducted its third annual Selection Saturday event on March 5, 2016 at Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan, which resulted in the selection of the third batch of Fellows for this program.

A panel of notable community leaders and PCF Alumni made up the committee of judges picked to screen program applicants. Candidates were evaluated based on outstanding achievements, community recommendations, strength of character, leadership potential, communication skills, and community activities.

The overall candidate pool was stellar and undoubtedly impressive, leaving the judges with no easy task. These candidates range from ages 25 to 45, and the program established this age bracket as a means of selecting individuals who are mid-career and looking to move forward on innovative and creative paths. After a series of interviews, consideration of candidate achievements, and grueling deliberations, 15 candidates were selected to become Fellows of the Marianas Chapter. The Class of 2016 is an impressive group comprising individuals who are representatives from the business sector and civil servants.

The Class of 2016 Fellows include: Maryann B. Arriola, senior staff specialist, Office of Grants Management-Office of the Governor; Catherine M. Attao, transportation security manager, Department of Homeland Security, Transportation Security Administration; Joe E. Ayuyu, Jr., manager/executive assistant to the president, JCA Inc.; Charles Brasington, assistant attorney general, CNMI Office of the Attorney General; Alexis P. Cabrera, project manager Public Relations/Project Management, Imperial International (CNMI), LLC; Janice Anne E. Castro, executive assistant, Alter City Group Inc.; Derek B. Gersonde, public information officer/firefighter/EMT, Department of Fire & EMS (DFEMS) ; Brady J. Hammond, Department chair, Northern Marianas College; Charles P. Reyes, Jr., attorney, Law Office of Charles Reyes; Brad E. Ruszala, executive consultant, Excelsior Communications; Carline B. Sablan, Economic Development analyst, Commonwealth Development Authority; Jordan C. Sundell, lawyer, Bridge Capital, LLC; Beau Q. Tomokane, station supervisor, Delta Air Lines, Inc.; Laarni P. Zapanta, account support specialist-Customer Operations, IT&E; and Ruselle T. Zapanta, operations manager, Tan Holdings.

The PCF Marianas Chapter is a leadership development program with the sole purpose of uniting potential leaders and strong community intellectuals in order to strategically address some of today's most pressing matters. The Chapter is an extension of the Pacific Century Fellows Program based in Honolulu, Hawaii, and founded by former Honolulu mayor Mufi Hannemann.

The program jump-starts with a Leadership Retreat for building cohesion as a class and tailoring of the program year to better fit the Fellows' learning and the current issues of our islands. The program year will then carry on with monthly sessions where Fellows will interact with leaders and skilled professionals from various sectors of business and government and all walks of life.

The Fellows will graduate upon completion of the program year, and the knowledge gained from the program will go a long way to making more broad-minded leaders, more creative problem-solvers, and more confident global citizens. ***(PR)***

R. Zapanta

Attao

Ayuyu Jr.

Cabrera

Ruszala

Sablan

Hammond

L. Zapanta

Tomokane

Castro

Reyes

Arriola

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Lions Club to hold Sunday Health Fair

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

District 204, Region 2 of the Lions Clubs International will be holding its annual Health Fair on Sunday, March 13, at Mt. Carmel Cathedral's Joeten Dai-Dai Social Hall in Chalan Kanoa. The event will be held from 8am to 12noon, and is free and open to the public.

Blood pressure test, sugar/glucose test, vision screening, and eye pressure test are some of the services that will be offered. Individuals who are going to take the sugar/glucose test should not eat at least six hours before the procedure.

Some medical staff will also hold information campaigns on diabetes, cancer, and general health awareness. Free reading glasses will be given on a first-come, first-serve basis.

The Northern Marianas College Nursing Club, Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. nurses, CHCC's immunization program, PHI Pharmacy, Paradise Dental Clinic, the Commonwealth Cancer Association, and the Guam Marianas Lions Club are the service providers.

Lions Clubs region chair Ladyvir Canape said other health companies are still open to join them on Sunday. "Since we are still waiting for confirmation from our service providers, we are encouraging other health companies to join this medical mission."

The medical mission is an annual event that is part of the community service done by Lions Clubs' Region 2," added zone chair Mario Mayuga.

District governor Daniel Yang, first vice district governor-elect Art Navarro, past district governor Gorin Duenas, PDG Romy Angel, and Guam Marianas Lions Club members are expected to attend the Health Fair.

The Saipan Filipino-American Lions Club, Saipan Marianas Lions Club, Saipan Unity Lions Club, Tinian Marianas Lions Club, and the Rota Marianas Lions Club compose District 204, Region 2.

The Philippines' honorary consul to the CNMI Eli Arago, Saipan Filipino-American Lions Club president Annamae Adaza, and Bhiya Canadalla of Happy Market are some of the people that District 204, Region 2 of the Lions Clubs International would like to thank.

TSL Foundation, IT&E, Barny's Pizza, Bartender's Association, Jet Holdings, Kautz Glass, McDonald's, National Office Supply, Sun Palace Hotel, Trader's Insurance, Coca-Cola, Shirley Wilson Catering Services, D' Elegance Café, Saipan Ice & Water Co., Wushin LP Gas, McDonald's, Gold Ribbon Snack Bar & Bakeshop, JFR Corp., D&Q Saipan, Marpac and KFC/Taco Bell are the sponsors of the event.

For more information about the Health Fair, call Canape at 989-2545, Region 2 secretary Olive Yana at 233-3854, Mayuga at 2851021, or Adaza at 483-5237.

Lions Clubs International is composed of 46,000 local clubs that has over 1.4 million members in 200 countries, making it the world's largest community-based organization. The Lions Club International will be celebrating its 100th founding anniversary on June 7, 2017. For more information about the Lions, check www.lionsclubs.org or contact any member.

GRAND VRIO RESORT SAIPAN

Our "Dolphin" restaurant (10th floor of Crystal Tower in Grandvrio Resort Saipan) will reopen as A-La-Carte restaurant from March 07, 2016.

Welcome to enjoy fast & nice Lunch ($8~) and authentic Japanese Shabu Shabu or Sukiyaki for your dinner ($35).
Open time: Everyday Lunch: 11:30am-2:00pm Last Order: 1:30pm • Dinner 5:30pm-9:00pm Last Order : 8:30pm.

Our "Tropicana" restaurant (2nd floor of Taga Tower) will open regularly with following schedule.

Welcome to enjoy fantastic buffet at our "Tropicana Restaurant"! Performance is available on Sunday Brunch; "Seafood & Sushi night" dinner buffet every Friday and Saturday.
Breakfast: 7:00am-10:00pm Lunch: 11:30am-2:00pm Sunday Brunch: 11:00am-2:00pm Dinner: 5:30pm-9:00pm

MARCH 11, 2016 FRIDAY	MARCH 12, 2016 SATURDAY	MARCH 13, 2016 SUNDAY	MARCH 16, 2016 WEDNESDAY	MARCH 18, 2016 FRIDAY	MARCH 19, 2016 SATURDAY
Buffet Lunch $14 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	**Sunday Brunch $22**	Buffet Lunch $14	Buffet Lunch $14 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)
MARCH 20, 2016 SUNDAY	**MARCH 23, 2016 WEDNESDAY**	**MARCH 25, 2016 FRIDAY**	**MARCH 26, 2016 SATURDAY**	**MARCH 27, 2016 SUNDAY**	**MARCH 30, 2016 WEDNESDAY**
Sunday Brunch $22	Buffet Lunch $14	Buffet Lunch $14 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	**Sunday Brunch $22**	Buffet Lunch $14

"Starlight BBQ" Dinner Buffet Location: Poolside Price: Reg. $30 (Local: $28) Business hrs: 6:00-9:00pm Menu: "All you eat & drink" - beers, red& white wine, soft drinks, Oolong tea and juices. Come and taste delicious curry & sandwich set ($7.00 only), cake, café latte, organic smoothies… with unique ocean view at our "Airi Coffee Lounge".
For reservation or inquiry, please call: 670-237-2527 or E-mail: food.beverage@grandvrio-saipan.com

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Public library has 555 new items for community

The Joeten Kiyu Public Library staff is inviting the community to check out its new collection of books, magazines, and DVDs that arrived last month. JKPL staff had finished in classifying the items, which are now ready for borrowing.

"I just want to inform the community about our new collections for February 2016. We have a total of 555 new JKPL items cataloged all together. We have books ranging from audio-visual books. Books for juveniles to young adults, and adults," said JKPL library assistant and front circulation supervisor Ray Deleon Guerrero Jr.

He added that JKPL's new collection of books will be appreciated not only by the regular patrons but also those who haven't visited the library in a long while. "Those people who might have wondered what types of books and other items were released each month."

Deleon Guerrero said keeping the community informed of what's new with their public library is their way of promoting literacy.

"It is not only to promote literacy each and everyday to the people but inform the people on what's new, what's up and what's happening at JKPL," Deleon Guerrero said. "Also, whenever you're free stop by and check out our daily book sale section."

Some of their recommended books are Todd McCaffrey's science fiction sequel to his *Dragonriders of Pern* series, *Dragongirl; The Year of Fog*, a mystery-suspense novel by Michelle Richmond; Matthew Mather's *The Atopia Chronicles*, which is part of his Atopia series; *Pacific Basket Makers: A Living Tradition*; *Tropical Blossoms of the Pacific* by Dorothy Hargreaves;

Alex Delaware's Guilt; *True Detectives* by Jonathan Kellerman; the Tami Hoag novel *A Thin Dark Line*; Mark Brazaitis's Sullivan Prize-winning short novel *The Incurables*; The David Baldacci thriller *The Forgotten; Laws of The Game*; and King Kong DVD. ***(Jon Perez)***

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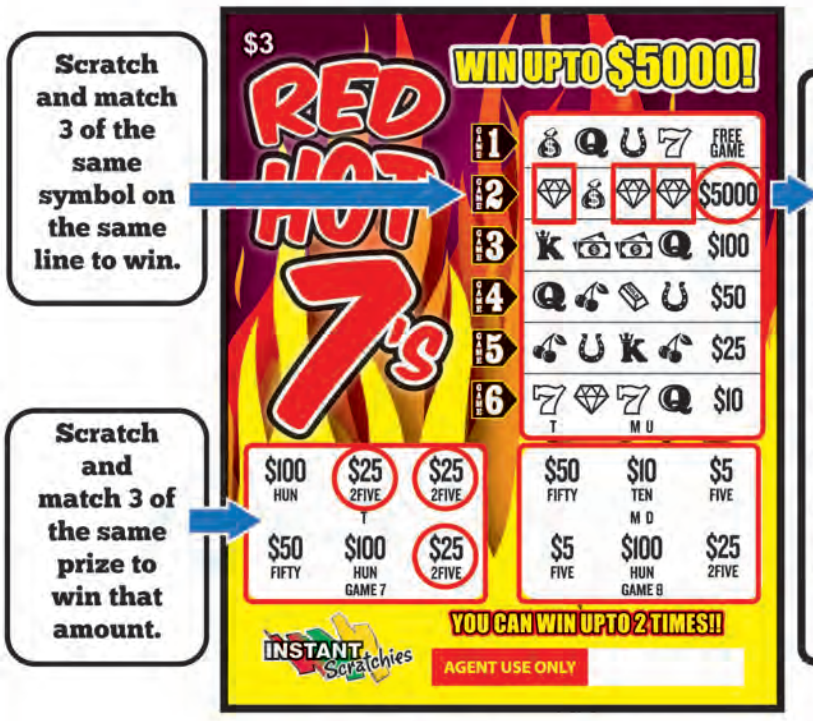

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USGS personnel hold brown tree snake talk at NMIS

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Personnel from the U.S. Geological Survey in Guam visited the Northern Marianas International School Wednesday and talked about the dangers posed by brown tree snakes in the CNMI's ecosystem.

Adam Knox, the Rapid Response Team coordinator of the Brown Tree Snake project, was accompanied by biologist Mike Hogan and Maria Onni of the Division of Fish and Wildlife and they showed how to identify the brown tree snake and what to do if you encounter one.

More than 70 preschool and elementary students, their parents, and NMIS teachers and staff attended the two-hour seminar at the school cafeteria. Knox had photos of BTS in a slide show, while Hogan took out a live animal, which earned different reactions from the students.

Knox, aside from the talk at NMIS, said they are on Saipan to investigate alleged sightings of the invasive species in the CNMI. In September 2014, a live BTS was captured at the Rota Seaport fence line while there was a report that the animal was seen in Dandan early this year.

"We investigate cases and search areas if there are reported sightings, we came back to check. We haven't found one yet and we want to make sure there are no BTS on Saipan and we want to make it that way. If there are BTS on Saipan, we want to see if it has a small or large population. We want to find it so we could control and kill it," said Knox.

BTS can grow up to 6 feet long and can be identified with its shiny belly. They are invasive species or animals that should not be in a certain place. They usually come from other parts of the world.

JON PEREZ
Northern Marianas International School students try to get a closer look at a brown tree snake held by U.S. Geological Survey biologist Mike Hogan when they visited the school Wednesday.

"There are lots of BTS in Guam. It arrived from Guam either by boat or airplane as a stowaway. They originated from Australia and parts of Indonesia," added Knox. "We trap them by using a mice or mouse as baits."

Knox said BTS are successful invasive species in Guam and eat birds, chickens, frogs, geckos, or other lizards. "They are not picky eaters and they love to eat birds. Birds are important to the ecosystem because they help spread seeds to forests."

He added that people must kill a BTS if they see one then call 28-SNAKE. "They are really hard to find since they live anywhere and they usually sleep after a meal. They could go for a month of not eating. That's why we use K9 dogs, which are 10,000 times [more effective in smelling things than humans] and BTS has a smell."

Knox said in Guam they put a tracking chip to one of the snakes to study where it goes and to know its hunting patterns. "They live anywhere if there are cracks, caves, and holes. They are very secretive and they lay eggs."

NMIS vice principal Jener Pineda said they decided to invite USGS personnel when they learned that they are on Saipan. "They usually hold seminars in public schools. It's free so we decided to invite them to raise awareness. We want our students, parents, and teachers to be informed," Pineda said.

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'4OS' jury selection for Monday cancelled

This is to inform all prospective jurors on panel "4OS" that the jury selection scheduled for Monday, March 21, 2016 at 8:30 a.m. in courtroom 205A is hereby CANCELLED until further notice. For further information, please contact clerk of court Patrick Diaz at Superior Court at telephone 236-9766. ***(PR)***

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM
P.O. BOX 501370
SAIPAN, MP 96950

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Fourteenth CNMI State Board of Education hereby gives notice that there will be a Special Board Meeting on Monday, March 14, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. at the Emergency Operations Center in Building 1254 in Capitol Hill, Saipan.

AGENDA

I. Preliminary
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of Minutes
   a. October 8, 2015 Special Board Meeting
   b. December 17, 2015 Regular Board Meeting
   c. January 14, 2016 Regular Board Meeting

II. Public Comments[1]

III. Reports
1. Chair
2. Board Committees
   a. FPA
3. Commissioner of Education
   a. Financial Status Reports
      i. Federal
      ii. Local
   b. FY 15 Audit Updates
   c. Head Start Program
   d. Other matters

IV. Unfinished Business

V. New Business
1. Proposed Amendment to Travel Regulations
2. Proposed Fiscal Year 2016-2017 BOE/PSS Budget
3. Proposed Federal Grants for FY'17
4. Proposed Five (5) Year School Calendar
5. Ratification of Proclamation – National School Counseling Week
6. Certification and Licensure Matters
   a. CLO Report No. 2016-001
   b. CLO Report No. 2016-002
7. Formation of Special Committee on Commissioner Evaluation

VI. Executive Session[2]
1. Legal Updates
2. Personnel/Certification
3. Other matters

VII. Administrative Matters

VIII. Discussion of Agenda for next Board meeting

IX. Adjournment

[1] Pursuant to BOE Policy 0415, public comments are limited to 30 minutes. We ask that remarks be limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcome to submit written comments.

[2] Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Board may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

ROTA AGRICULTURAL FAIR

Mayor Atalig thanks Best Sunshine for support

Rota will stage today its annual Agricultural Fair that is expected to attract a huge number of the island municipality's farmers and ranchers.

Best Sunshine International, Ltd. is supporting the event for local livestock growers and farmers, which is going to be held on the eve of the annual feast of San Isidro, the patron saint for farmers.

According to Rota Mayor Efraim Atalig, the support of BSI will allow local farmers and livestock growers the opportunity to showcase their produce and livestock and at the same time participate in friendly competitions.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Rota Mayor Efraim Atalig is joined by Best Sunshine International, Ltd.'s Corporate Social Responsibility team led by director Geri Dela Cruz after receiving its donation in support for this year's Annual Rota Agricultural Fair which will take place today on the eve of the Feast of San Isidro.

The Rota municipality has reached out to BSI to seek support and assistance, and among others, to finance the cost for prizes for the livestock competition, produce competition, and games.

"We look forward for a successful Agricultural Fair—and I just want to thank Best Sunshine for their support. This helps a lot," Atalig said.

He added, "On behalf of the people of Rota and our local municipal leadership, we extend our sincere appreciation to Best Sunshine."

The Rota Agricultural Fair has been an annual island-wide festivity since the 1990s.

Rota Lands and Natural Resources director David Calvo said they are expecting increased participation in today's agricultural fair.

"There will be a lot of farmers that will come out. They will showcase their products. We are fortunate that despite two typhoons, some of our farmers and (livestock growers) survived and are back on their feet," Calvo separately said.

"Thank you Best Sunshine for supporting our Rota farmers," he added. ***(PR)***

5 Saipan beaches red-flagged

The Division of Environmental Quality has red-flagged five Saipan beaches and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

Affected sites Hafa Adai Drainage, Garapan Fishing Dock, Garapan Beach Drain, CK Dist#2 Drain, and Hopwood School Beach.

Samples collected from these locations contained excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water.

DEQ analyzes water samples collected from Saipan's recreational beaches and storm drainage every Tuesday. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. ***(DEQ)***

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Turkey's news outlet takeovers

Turkey, a key U.S. ally and a member of NATO, continues to travel down a disturbingly authoritarian path. Last week, police in Istanbul stormed the offices of Zaman, the country's most widely circulated newspaper, subjecting employees and supporters to tear gas and water cannons. Earlier, a court had transferred control of the publication to a panel of trustees after a prosecutor accused the paper of spreading terrorist propaganda.

Zaman and its English-language sister publication are identified with the Cemaat movement led by the U.S.-based Muslim cleric Fethullah Gulen, political rival and former ally of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan. This week the Cihan news agency, also linked to Gulen, said that it too would be managed by court appointees.

The takeover of those outlets follows similar actions against other news organizations. In October, authorities ordered the seizure of Koza Ipek Group, which operated several television stations critical of the government. Meanwhile, prosecutors have pursued more than 1,800 cases of "insulting the president" since Erdogan, a former prime minister, was elected president in 2014.

Such stifling of political opponents is impossible to reconcile with the preamble of the treaty establishing NATO, which invokes "the principles of democracy, individual liberty and the rule of law."

The Obama administration called the action against Zaman "troubling," joining the chorus of criticism from human-rights groups. But it is also mindful that Turkey is a NATO ally and a key player in both the fight against Islamic State and the negotiations to end the civil war in Syria.

This isn't the first time the commitment of the U.S. to human rights tugs it in one direction while strategic interests pull in another. After the Egyptian military overthrew democratically elected President Mohamed Morsi in 2013, the Obama administration suspended the delivery of some weapons. But it relented two years later, when Egypt was confronted with instability in neighboring Libya and threats from Islamic State-affiliated groups.

On Monday, State Department spokesman John Kirby deflected a reporter's suggestion that the U.S. might impose sanctions on Turkish officials similar to those Congress approved against Russians involved in human-rights abuses, saying, "I won't get ahead of decisions that haven't been made one way or another with respect to that." Kirby also suggested that disagreements over press freedom needn't "tear asunder an entire bilateral relationship."

Perhaps not, but even if the U.S. feels constrained in the actions it can take, it should leave no doubt about what it thinks: that muzzling the press and political opponents is not just "troubling" but outrageous.

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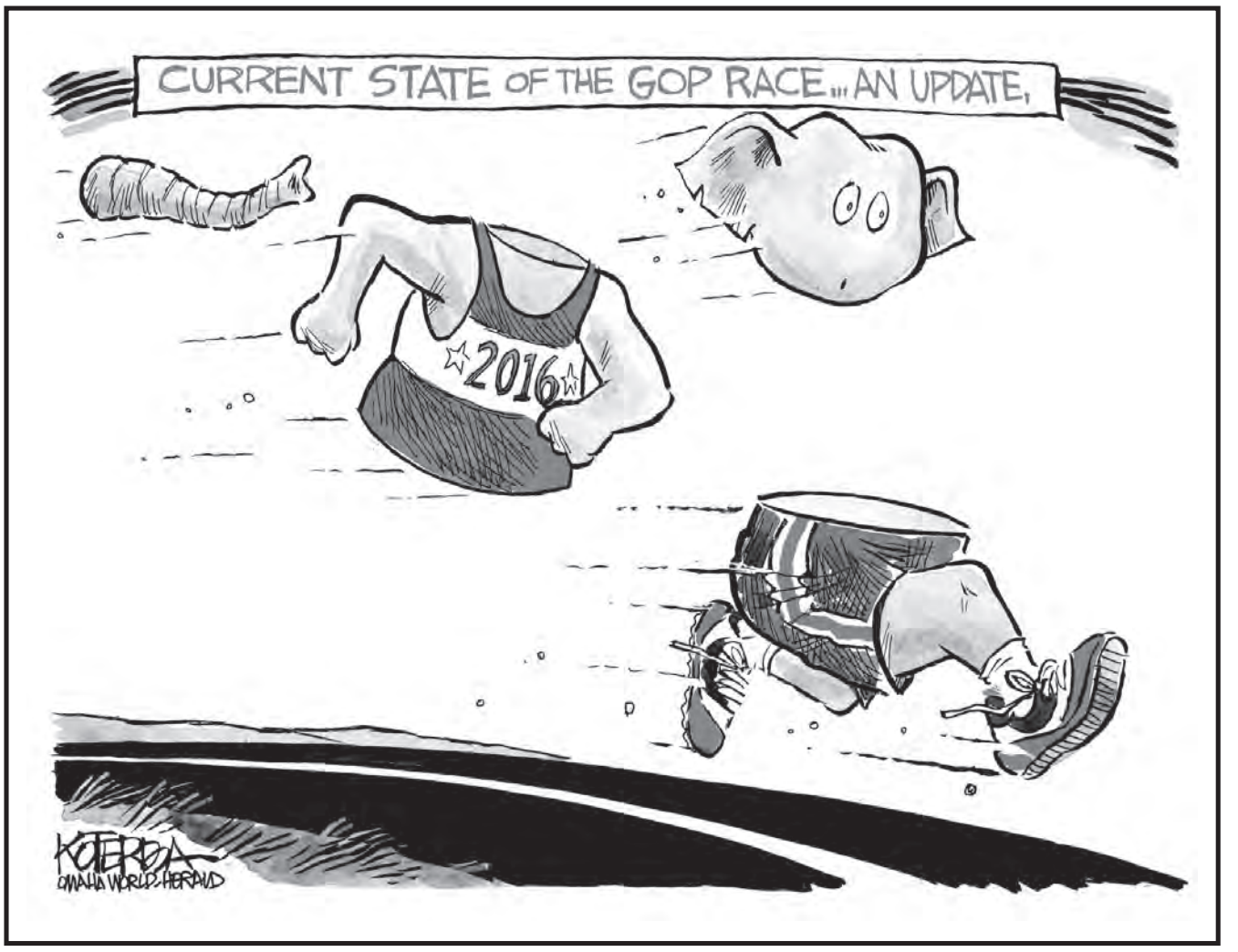


Fundi and Kent

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com.

Reflecting on drinking alcohol, Fundi, is the street name of the Pedro Domecq brandy Fundador favored by my peers for special occasions. Kent is the cigarette at Duty Free Korea bold enough to print in big letters: SMOKING KILLS!

In a class I taught not too long ago, I told a student born in Jamaica that ganja grew abundantly on the Blue Mountains as it also did among the forest trees south of Lagos, Nigeria. The "Jamaica" girl told her Mom, and I was castigated for speaking with authority to encourage young minds to inhale the common weed profusely growing in many backyards on Saipan!

Retired pedagogue Ambrose probably joins me on psychotropic THC as preferable to the nicotine, carbon monoxide, and tar of Virginia's leaf. I actually prefer neither as both lead to dependencies, but were I to choose on the matter on legal policy, I will most likely decriminalize the former and raise extreme caution on the effect of the latter.

For almost two weeks, I roasted my throat on Kent's heated air; I went to sleep early on Fundi's alcohol-induced ennui, "fun at the fridge door," or, fundador, got it? Two bottles later, with daily fluid intake dragging Kent's fumes, it turned to an "addiction." I tried shaking off both, and I was successful on the alcohol until my "partner" in China showed up bearing two Chinese brandy gifts rating mas 0 *menos* 50 percent APV. I took a swig and my afternoon nap went quietly and "nicely." One bottle came with two *cupitas*. At least, I sipped slowly rather than glugged as soon as the Vesper bells rang.

Brandy Xinghuacun of Shanxi and Laolongkuo of Shenyang provided more than a *cupita* before I called it a night. Addiction is, of course, not a subject of discourse among many, something kept under covers, or camouflaged with enough after-shave lotion and talc, save Greg Borja at NMPASI who will not hesitate to say that he marches on the 12 steps. The French invented *eau du perfum* because the winters were long and there was not enough hot water to go around! But the cover-up is not the issue, the addiction is.

Neuro-addiction from tobacco and alcohol is common, and easy to develop. My brandy-bearing Dong Bei associate chain-smokes and buys low tar cigarettes to cut down on nicotine and tar, but anxiously lights up one after the other consuming two packs a day easy. He is 25. The low tar might salve the conscience, but smoking is smoking; tar remains dirty, the carbon monoxide affects climate change, and nicotine still laces addiction.

In the quietude of my dwelling where I was reduced to doing laundry, cleaning the house, and hacking on a byline, I had my fifth cup of coffee by midday, and at the same time for the first time, also reached for a bottle of San Mig. First, it was liberating to do that. There were no confining rules that said I could not do it. On the other hand, shortly after midday, I was ready to take a nap. The physiological addiction was not significant compared to the mental one.

CNMI indigenous folks form a social hierarchy the same way as Carolinian gradations follow Satawal society. Knowledge is learned from navigators who face variables in the high seas, so not all get to learn the guarded knowledge. A lot of taboo go with sailing practices (e.g., women are not allowed to be sea farers), with a few still useful, others, best forgotten or ignored. Traditional wisdom begets illusions of social superiority.

The focus on navigation is hierarchical. The elite in the social structure navigates and spawns a mental exclusivity, a well-regarded status position. Knowledge is protected closely as only a few get to look at the constellation and transect the south and north stars, the main guides to the direct sea way between Satawal via Saipan to Japan.

Volcanic Pagan is considered ancestral land, the mystique of its black sands a sacred experience of life and death, at once mineral rich and deadly but the island, as public land, is subject to arrangements by the United States that wants to use it for military training purposes. Coconut crabs and deer outnumber islanders, but the politics of "strategic military location" considers China as a threat.

It dominates the thinking of the Pentagon across the Potomac.

This mental fixation of containing China is not valid. The U.S. fixation to lead the world as heir to the "sun never sets on the British Empire" of the uppity Brits, to police the world, is not an option. It reveals pettiness and arrogance.

Indigenes in the Marianas are addicted to Uncle Sam's dole. Unused to being imperials, Custer's U.S. soldiers hurried to tropical Samar wearing wool. Chinese PLAs slept on down jackets and wore dry socks and sneakers in Korea while GI Joe trod on boots that easily caused frostbites; layers of polyester froze the sweat, not a very smart move. A friend sits on real estate worth millions but he positions himself as a poor recipient of Uncle Sam's dole, a habit hard to break.

Addictions. I know mine. Do you know yours?

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Burgers!

By ED STEPHENS
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at EdStephensJr.com. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.

Let's consider a high-minded notion: If you had to pick a product to serve as an index of purchasing power across various markets, what would you choose? I think the ideal product would be commonly sold all over the world, homogeneous enough to be the same no matter where you bought it, cheap enough to have a broad base of buyers, popular enough to allow for near universal recognition, and it would also be something unsuited to price arbitrage via paper trading or via shipping between markets.

So, any ideas?

Here's one: The *Economist* magazine, in 1986, came up with a product for a purchasing power index. They chose the Big Mac.

It may have been of a wry choice, but it was, nonetheless, a meaningful one. The "Big Mac Index" is widely followed to see how various currencies compare to each other by noting how much a Big Mac costs in their respective markets.

That's interesting stuff. Well, it is for me, anyway. But it's old news nonetheless. In more recent years, however, it has become apparent that hamburgers have, indeed, become part of the global scene. This applies to Big Macs in specific and to hamburgers in general.

For example, the first McDonald's in Vietnam opened in 2014, and reportedly sold over 61,000 Big Macs during its first month of operations. I didn't know that was even possible.

Moving from Big Macs to the more general burger realm, here's another big number to consider: 1.19 billion hamburgers. That's how many burgers were chowed down in France last year (yes, France) according to a March 8 article in *The (U.K.) Telegraph*.

In fact, says *The Telegraph*, citing a recent study, "three quarters of French restaurants now sell hamburgers and 80 percent of these say it has become their top-selling dish."

This trend is hard for me to imagine in the home of "haute cuisine," which is why the article got my attention.

Looking back at the west Pacific, we're all familiar with Asian fast food chains that sell hamburgers.

Jollibee, headquartered in the Philippines, is one such chain. Jollibee has a number of restaurants in the U.S., by the way, with locations in Hawaii, California (22 by my count), Nevada, New Jersey, New York, Texas, Washington, Virginia, and another on the way in Illinois. That's an impressive presence.

Another chain that I'd visit, this one in Korea, was Lotteria, which seemed very much into the burger market.

Large, international chains aren't the only players, of course, and, at least in the U.S. mainland, there are a number of regional fast food chains that have loyal followings.

Another mainland angle is that small airports often have cafes, so a time-honored routine for weekend pilots is to fly to an airport for a "hundred dollar burger." The burger itself is only $7, and the fuel to get there accounts for the other $93. While you're flying to one airport for your $100 burger, somebody from that airport is flying to your airport for the same thing. If you ever get jaded, or, worse yet, broke, you might wind up spending a Saturday driving to an airport cafe so you can save $93 on a $100 burger. These cafes usually have very distinctive personalities. In fact, this might be the last bastion of the independent diner, the final redout where the corporate players have yet to cast a shadow.

Although burgers are usually associated with fast-food joints, diners, and overpriced hotel restaurants where you're looking for the cheapest doggone thing on the menu that might be edible (but never is), burgers seem to be getting very popular in the more up-scale realm called "casual dining." In this realm, having a burger, an appetizer, and a cocktail can easily cost $35 or more.

Well, we're back to the cost thing. So I'll mention that according to the Big Mac Index, as of January, a Big Mac in the U.S. was $4.93, in China was the equivalent of $2.68, and in Switzerland was the equivalent of $6.44.

Considering Saipan's long lines of shipping, the cost of a Big Mac is mercifully close to the U.S. cost; the last price I've got for a Big Mac (at the Chalan Pale Arnold Rd. location) is $5.50.

Anyway, no matter what the price is, and no matter where we go, burgers seem to be a part of life all over the world.

Ghost of deception

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.*

The elected elite was sitting pretty in their white dove nest enjoying the blue skies, view of the sea fading into eternity and relaxing green savannahs. Admire the setting so fitting for deep thinkers definitely not the incorrigible.

Though they take stride in the usual balmy weather, something's amiss. Their eyes flicker nervously while struggling to hide the blinders of deception.

The perplexing stomach butterfly keeps winging in their tummies as they quiz: how could they stop the leak of surrendering as lap dogs to rich donors? In brief, how do they shift the disgust and mistrust that has sunk into the minds of the electorate? It's a monumental task.

The brewing storm has shaped public perception that now heads down the path of serious expulsion. It's all a matter of time. Someone said that in politics "perception" is everything. Well, deal with it! You betrayed the trust we had on your promise of responsible representation.

Many are familiar that their reputation is awash in the filthy swamp of deception and could very well land them in prison as their familiar warm seats on the hill. With questionable values and loyalty what did you expect from "we the people?" Why would you treat "we the people" as villains?

Listen to the economic and societal turbulence that is brewing beneath the surface ready to erupt. With a rudderless administration that does more traveling than timely problem solving distressed villagers are doing worse as their anger and resentment builds. Moreover, the fault lines are finally shifting, grinding like opposing forcers of abutting tectonic plates, signs of an impending social earthquake.

Some of the more prominent ones would head to the Horiguchi in Garapan where they would be subjected to a different kind of debate or more like direct and indirect exams from prosecuting attorneys and their very own. This is where the boys would mumble and stumble garbled words when direct queries zero-in triggering possible self-incrimination. It would be sad when they leave their white dove nest for rooms surrounded by rock cement walls somewhere downstairs.

Well, you'd be sowing what you planted in your own garden! No one inflicted major paradigms in the lack of trust from "we the people" coming from your staples of negligence and crony associations. Deal with your ghost of deception!

Meaning of Deficit: When you hear or read the term "deficit" it simply means debt. You're right on that score. Conservatively, this government is in debt by as much as $1.2 billion. You add the current deficit of some $510 million plus the $789 million the NMI owes the NMI Retirement Fund and you'd arrive at the cumulative deficit shown hereinabove.

The immediate impact of a huge deficit is the urgency of whether the local government can still pay for hospital operations, meet the needs of the public school system, settlement fund, payment due CUC and other vendors. When there's a shortage then it could mean CHC can't order more for its in-house medical and regular supplies. With PSS, it may mean repeating last year's exercise where kids bring their own toilet tissue from home.

It's time to reduce the size of a huge government payroll, excess baggage slammed against taxpayers by clueless elected officials of the mounting hardship at familial level.

In the absence of major sources of revenue to meet obligations that jumps by leaps and bounds, it could very well mean the imposition of taxes as the option of last resort. What does it mean for taxpayers? It means every household would have to pay an additional $23,196.42 cents in taxes to pay off the NMI's ballooning deficit or obligations. So much for the 3 percent economic uptick!

Immigration Debate: We've gone in and out of the debate whether children born here of foreign parents are U.S. citizens or not. The discussion usually implodes like it's the Fourth of July that often border on racism rather unfairly. But since when were we assigned disposition in the propagation of the species?

Are these kids U.S. citizens? Yes! Here's what the Fourteenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution says:

"Section 1. All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws."

There's the human side to this provision: These isles are their place of birth and have grown up here since then. This is the only home they know. They a part of this community and have seen how well they work with indigenous children in brotherly fashion. Since birth they've become the sons and daughters of Mariana! Let's retire the term "stateless."

Problems: As we try to deal with federal immigration on labor needs there's recent news article how nearby Guam is also running into problems meeting its needs. There's a lot of rejection from U.S. Immigration. Employers could go around it to speed up the review process but it would cost $1,250 per application. The rejection involves nurses, construction workers, and others jobs as well.

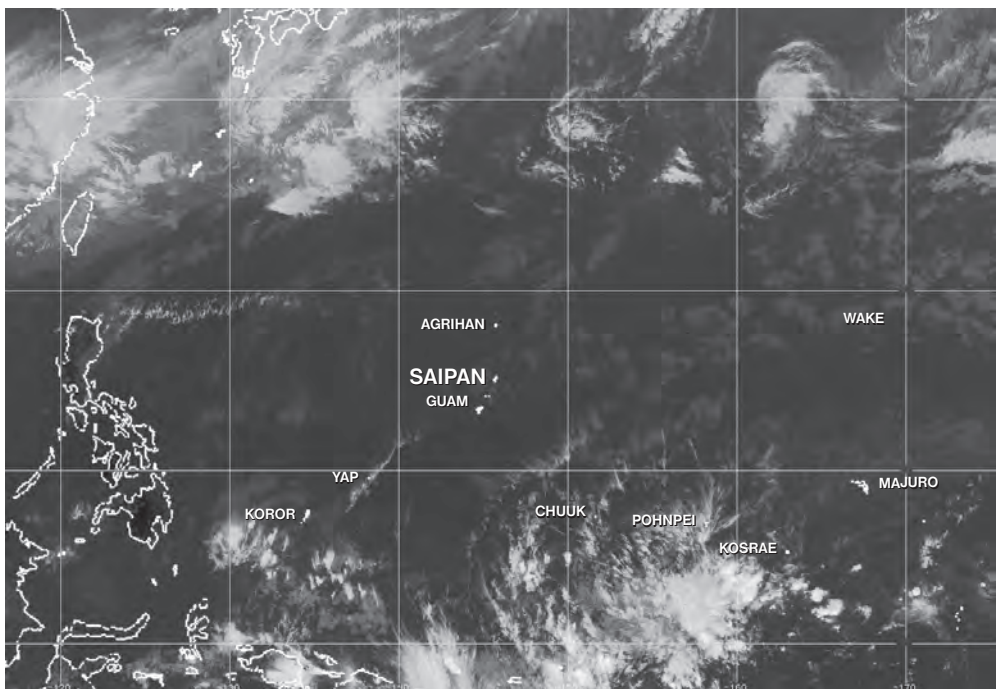
The lack of an overall economic plan fails the NMI in that we can't project our labor and other needs other than discussion in D.C. about the environment and corroboration with Micronesian governments. When do we exit planning by eventualities? Eh, it's planning the future of our children so they have a decent and meaningful place under the sun versus the deepening effects of the economic depression that has turned paradise into a hellish hole!

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Partly cloudy with a slight chance of light showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with a slight chance of light showers.	Partly cloudy with a slight chance of light showers.
▲86° ▼75°	▲86° ▼75°	▲86° ▼75°	▲86° ▼75°	▲86° ▼75°

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00 PM, THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 2016
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A cold front cuts southwestward from 25N140E to beyond 22N130E with clouds and showers along and northwest of the front to beyond 25N. A weak trade-wind disturbance moving across the Republic of Palau is causing scattered showers in patchy areas within 200 miles of a line from 8N131E to 2N138E. Trade-wind convergence is triggering scattered showers and a few thunderstorms southwest of Chuuk between 5N and 3N from 147E to 149E and south of Pohnpei and Kosrae between 5N and the equator from 154E to 162E. Also, there are widely scattered showers across the southern Marshall Islands and Butaritari between the equator and 6N from 165E to 180.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia

Guam And Rota	Partly Cloudy	▲84	▼76
Palau	Partly Cloudy	▲90	▼78
Yap	Partly Cloudy	▲89	▼77
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	▲86	▼80
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼80
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲83	▼81
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	▲85	▼80

Around the Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲74	▼60
Beijing	Sunny	▲48	▼24
Hong Kong	Cloudy	▲56	▼55
Honolulu	Windy	▲76	▼68
London	Partly Cloudy	▲55	▼33
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲75	▼55
Manila	Partly Cloudy	▲93	▼74
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	▲91	▼67
Miami	Windy	▲79	▼70
New York	Mostly Cloudy	▲75	▼56
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲51	▼36
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲54	▼35
Pusan	Sunny	▲48	▼29
Rome	Mostly Sunny	▲63	▼46
Salem	Rain	▲55	▼39
San Francisco	Rain	▲61	▼55
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	▲42	▼27
Tokyo	Showers	▲44	▼37
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲81	▼59

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tides

Saipan Harbor

3:15 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet
9:18 AM	Today	High Tide:	2.1 Feet
3:43 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet
9:39 PM	Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:28 AM	6:27 PM
Saturday	6:27 AM	6:27 PM
Sunday	6:27 AM	6:27 PM
Monday	6:27 AM	6:27 PM
Tuesday	6:27 AM	6:27 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	8:01 AM	8:40 PM
Saturday	8:52 AM	9:41 PM
Sunday	9:43 AM	10:41 PM
Monday	10:36 AM	11:41 PM
Tuesday	11:30 AM	

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MARCH 1, 2016

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA2924	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA2922	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA2921	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA2920	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA2928	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA2926	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA2921	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA2921	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL297	4:20pm	7:10pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ628	3:50am	7:40am	Daily
7C3403	4:35am	8:30am	Daily
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	5:30am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:10am	11:15am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:15am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA2924/191	4:15am	9:00am	3, 6 via GUM
UA2924/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	Daily via GUM
UA2922/183	8:40am	9:30pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA2922/183	8:40am	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA2922/193	8:40am	11:10pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA2921/183	1:30pm	9:30pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA2921/183	1:30pm	9:50pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA2921/193	1:30pm	11:10pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA2920/183	2:20pm	9:30pm	2 via GUM
UA2920/183	2:20pm	9:50pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA2920/193	2:20pm	11:10pm	2 via GUM-ROR
UA2928/183	6:05pm	9:30pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA2928/183	6:05pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA2928/193	6:05pm	11:10pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA2926/191	9:50pm	7:20am+1	1, 6 via GUM
UA2926/191	9:50pm	9:00am+1	3, 6 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ628/721	3:50am	12:50am	Daily via ICN
UA2922/159	8:40am	10:35pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA2921/159	1:30pm	10:35pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA2920/159	2:20pm	10:35pm	3, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA2923	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA2925	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA2921	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA2920	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA2927	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA2929	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA2920	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA2920	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:35am	3:10pm	Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
OZ627	9:30pm	2:50am+1	Daily
7C3404	10:10pm	3:30am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:00pm	1:50am+1	3, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA190/2927	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 6, 7 via GUM
UA190/2929	9:55am	9:20pm	2, 6, 7 via GUM
UA190/2927	10:00am	5:35pm	3 via GUM
UA190/2929	10:00am	9:20pm	3 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ702/627	12:30pm	2:50am+1	Daily via ICN
PR110/UA2925	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA192/2925	10:20pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA192/2920	10:20pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA192/2927	10:20pm	5:35pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA192/2929	10:20pm	9:20pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA184/2925	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/2921	10:55pm	1:00pm+1	3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/2920	10:55pm	1:50pm+1	1 via GUM-Rota
UA184/2927	10:55pm	5:35pm+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/2929	10:55pm	9:20pm+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/2925	11:59pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA184/2920	11:59pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA184/2927	11:59pm	5:35pm+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA184/2929	11:59pm	9:20pm+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ724/627	2:20pm	2:50am+1	Daily via ICN
UA116/2925	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA116/2921	10:55pm	1:00pm+1	3, 6 via GUM
UA116/2920	10:55pm	1:50pm+1	1, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA116/2927	10:55pm	5:35pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA116/2929	10:55pm	9:20pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO ROTA

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

ROTA TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

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NOTICE OF SALE
CDA FORECLOSED PROPERTIES

The Commonwealth Development Authority (CDA) hereby gives notice that it is seeking interested buyers, bids and proposals for the fee simple purchase or the leasing of its foreclosed properties. The specific foreclosed properties available for sale or lease are:

LOT NO.	LOCATION	SIZE (sqm)	DESCRIPTION	ASKING PRICE
ROTA PROPERTIES **Wednesday, March 16, 2016** **NMC Campus after the Stakeholders' Meeting**				
1	230 R 01	Tatgua	9,384.5	Vacant	75,000
2	167 R 03	Isang	30,000	Vacant	60,000
SAIPAN PROPERTIES **Friday, March 18, 2016** **2:00pm CDA Conference Room**				
1	Tr 22805-1-4	As Teo	2,241	Vacant	35,000
2	1674-NEW-5-2	Kannat Tabla	1,401	Vacant	25,000
3	012 G 87	Kagman	1,010	Vacant	15,000
4	012 G 88	Kagman	1,130	Vacant	15,000
5	012 G 89	Kagman	902	Vacant	12,000
6	278-15	i-Denni	4,928	Vacant	65,000

Fee Simple Purchase and Auctions (A) & Leasehold or Ground Lease with Option to Purchase (B)

1. Interested bidders and buyers are cautioned to inspect the title and property. The interests of CDA in the property are being sold **"AS IS"** and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property or improvements or any related documents will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer or lessee.
2. CDA reserves the following rights:
   a. To withdraw any or all of the listed properties before sale or lease or before a bid for such property is accepted, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   b. To reject any and all bids or proposals.

Interested persons may contact Nanette Estrada at 532-9408 (ROTA) and Christy Kintol at 234-6245 ext. 310 (SAIPAN) for more information or to inspect properties, appraisals and or photos.

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Procurement, Delivery, Installation and Commissioning of Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) Compressor with Built-In Refilling Station for the Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting Departments at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Tinian International Airport and the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport

Project No. CPA-SA-005-16

The Commonwealth Ports Authority is soliciting sealed proposals from qualified companies to procure, deliver, install and commission a brand new self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) compressor with built-in refilling stations for the Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF) Departments at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, the Tinian International Airport and the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport. Proposals are to include procurement, delivery and installation of stations to each respective airport.

The compressor and refilling equipment shall include the quantities and details and product specifications as provided within the scope of work. The scope and product data are available for pick up at the CPA Administration Office.

The proposals shall include the following:

1. Letter of interest;
2. Team Members;
3. Related past project performance (include commendations or certifications, if available);
4. Available resources to accomplish the project;
5. Cost proposal (in itemized SOW format); and
6. Valid Business License.

The contract period for procurement and installation will be based on the contractor's proposal. However, liquidated damages of $500.00 shall be assessed the contractor for each calendar day the completion of the project is delayed beyond the acceptance date without approved excuse by CPA.

All proposals are to be submitted in a sealed envelope marked with the respective RFP description to the office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, 2nd floor of the Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, no later than **4:30 p.m., MONDAY, MARCH 21 , 2016.**

Each proposal shall be accompanied by a bid bond issued by a CPA approved surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount no less than ten percent (10%) of the total proposal amount. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All responses to this RFP shall take into account any and all taxes that will be charged to the proposer awarded the contract for the project, including excise tax.

The procurement is being financed by funds from the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within sixty (60) calendar days from the receipt of proposals. CPA reserves the right to hold the contract award for ninety (90) calendar days from the date of receipt of proposals.

All This procurement is made in accordance with the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations Section 40-50-225. Proposals will be evaluated and scored based on the following criteria:

1.	Total cost for equipment procurement, delivery and programming	35%
2.	Experience of the firm on similar or related systems	35%
3.	Qualifications of the principal(s) and assigned staff	20%
4.	Timeframe for delivery, programming and commissioning	10%

Questions and inquiries regarding this Request for Proposals shall be submitted in writing and may be delivered to the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, at the Saipan International Airport, faxed to (670) 234-5962 or emailed to Assistant ARFF Chief William Camacho at bcamacho@cpa.gov.mp.

CPA reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

All proposals shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

/s/ JOSE R. LIFOIFOI
Board Chairman/Contracting Officer

Date: February 22, 2016

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

On John Kasich candidacy

I would like to recommend as Presidential candidate Gov. John Kasich of Ohio, who is moderate, fiscally responsible, knowledgeable about the Defense Department, and compassionate.

As a member of the U.S. House of Representatives before he was elected governor, he served as chairperson of the House Budget Committee and succeeded in balancing the federal budget. He has vowed that, as President, balancing the budget will be his priority. As governor in Ohio, he has reduced taxes by five billion dollars and erased the state's deficit. A resident of Ohio has described him as a "doer" more than a talker.

While he was in the nation's Congress, he also served on the House Armed Services Committee, so he is knowledgeable about the working of the Defense Department.

Perhaps most importantly, in temperament, he seems sensible and balanced. He is also compassionate. I was very moved by his passion in describing the reduction in the recidivism rate in his state's prisons.

Finally, Kasich is sincerely pro-life, vital to ensuing generations of children.

Gregory Voss
Belleville, Illinois

Flying the not-so-friendly skies: What are your air passenger rights and how do you enforce them?

Part II: Overbooking and bumping

CONSUMER CORNER

By TERESITA J. SABLAN
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Teresita J. Sablan is the consumer counsel of the Office of the Attorney General.

The first of this three-part series discussed cancellations and delays; now we turn to overbooking and passenger bumping. The Airline Deregulation Act of 1978 did precisely what the title of the act would suggest—that is, it deregulated the airlines—with an aim to allow the competitive market to naturally govern the quality of services, offering of flights, and prices of fares. The U.S. Department of Transportation, however, still has jurisdiction to regulate the airlines to protect consumers (but not without limit). One of the areas that DOT can regulate is overbooking and passenger bumping.

It is common practice for airlines to overbook flights to buffer against no-shows (people who purchase tickets and don't show up at flight time). Sometimes, there are fewer no-shows than estimated, and so more passengers than seats. When that happens, the airlines will "bump" passengers from the flight to stay within the aircraft's seating capacity. Both overbooking and bumping are permissible, but there are certain rules that airlines must follow when "bumping" passengers.

Before bumping passengers without their consent, the airline must first find out if any passengers will voluntarily give up their seats and take a later flight. Often, airlines will entice passengers to volunteer by offering flight vouchers, cash, or other incentives. When airlines offer free or reduced airfare as compensation, they must disclose any restrictions that apply to the offer. If you volunteer for bumping, be sure to find out when your flight will be rescheduled and whether you will be provided food and any needed accommodations in addition to the offered compensation.

If there are no volunteers, the airlines can begin bumping involuntarily. If you are involuntarily bumped and rescheduled on a flight that arrives at your first stopover (or final destination if there is no stop) within one hour of your original schedule, you are not entitled to any compensation. Anything longer than one hour, however, requires compensation: for delays of more than one hour, but less than two hours, compensation must be 200 percent of the original fare (capped at a maximum of $675); for delays of more than two hours or if no alternate transportation is provided, compensation must be 400 percent of the original fare (capped at $1,350). The airline must provide you with cash or a check for the required amount on the spot. However, if the airline arranges for alternate transportation before payment can be prepared, the airline must provide payment (either by mailing it or otherwise) within 24 hours of bumping a passenger.

If you want to lodge a complaint about overbooking or bumping, start with the airline. The airlines are required to inform consumers how to submit a complaint on their website, on their e-ticket confirmations, and at their airline counters upon request. They also must respond to consumer complaints within 60 days of receiving the request.

In addition to lodging a complaint with the airline, you should file a complaint with the Department of Transportation at: https://www.transportation.gov/airconsumer/file-consumer-complaint. DOT is responsible for enforcing the regulations and can impose any applicable penalties or sanctions.

Finally, you can also submit a complaint to the Consumer Counsel: cnmiconsumercounsel@gmail.com. Under the Airline Deregulation Act, the Commonwealth cannot regulate fares, services, and routes, but if your complaint touches on other matters it could permit action under Commonwealth law.

■ *Please note that these rules apply to covered carriers as defined under the DOT regulations that meet certain flight requirements. The rules may not apply to all flights.*

■ *The information contained in this article is for general informational purposes only and is not intended to provide legal advice to any individual or entity. This information is not intended to create, and the reading of it does not constitute, an attorney-client relationship.*

What gender parity really is

By DOLORES REYES DREW
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Dolores Reyes Drew is the special assistant for Women's Affairs. She made this speech during the Women's Affairs "Meet and Greet Gathering" at Minatchom Atdao this past Tuesday.

Good evening everyone, women and men, guests, friends, and family,

Thank you joining us this evening for our first meet-and-greet gathering.

With March as Women's Month, I want to start by saying that there is still a lot of work to be done in terms of achieving parity.

There continues to be a widespread misunderstanding in what women are trying to achieve and what gender parity really is.

Parity is the belief that all men and women should have equal rights and opportunities.

Women must do their part in educating themselves and taking advantage of opportunities to achieve gender balance.

From women in business, finance, law enforcement, education, health, construction and science to politics, women must take these chances and pursue these fields often dominated by men.

At the same time, men should not feel ashamed to compete or enter female dominated occupations to be homemakers, educators, nurses or even beauticians.

According to the 2015 Global Gender Gap Report, "the slow pace of progress in bridging the gap in economic opportunity between women and men means that women are only now earning the amount men earned in 2006, the year that the Global Gender Gap report was first created.

[The report] states that, "it will take the world another 118 years—or until 2133—to close the economic gap entirely."

The report also says that worldwide, only 25 countries have now closed their gap entirely, with the most progress having been made in university education, where women now make up the majority of students in nearly 100 countries.

It shows that political empowerment has the widest gap with only two countries reaching parity. This means that only 23 percent of the world is equal.

The most gender-equal countries in the world are Iceland, Norway, Finland, Sweden, Denmark, Belgium, Ireland, Rwanda, the Philippines, Nicaragua, Switzerland, and New Zealand.

Six years ago, the CNMI census report showed that there were over 48,000 people on the island.

Of the 48,000 people, over 24,000 were males and over 23,000 were females.

It showed that the median earnings in 2009 for a full-time woman living in Navy Hill was $24,375 while compared to a full time male worker in the same village was $32,500. This is an $8,000 yearly difference.

In the village of Papago, the median wage for males was $21,429 and for women it was $16,875. This is a $5,000 yearly difference.

In Kannat Tabla, it was $10,278 for men and for women it was $10,268. This is only a $10 difference. The villages with the most equal median earnings were Marpi, Garapan and Kagman among others.

For women working full-time while taking care of the home, going to school and possibly raising children on their own, these numbers illustrate a huge socio-economic gap.

In the political arena, there are only two women serving in our Legislature. In the U.S. Senate, there are only 20 women out of a 100.

This imbalance slows the growth of parity and economic policy that could improve gender equality.

Race, ethnicity, and gender really should not be determining factors in equality, but despite this belief, a gap does exist.

Businesses should commit or renew their commitment to paying all workers equally. Proactively monitoring and conducting salary audits can address gender based pay differences.

Policy makers and government leaders should improve or better implement the Equal Pay Act and create stronger incentives for fair pay and enforce better wage practices. For men and women, we must continue to not only attain higher education, but also be self-starters to gain work and volunteer experience and learn

See GENDER on Page 18

Type II Handcrew Packtest

March 12, 2016 at 0530 hours
Kilili Beach North Parking Lot

The Department of Fire & Emergency Medical Services [DFEMS] Forestry Strike Team is looking for individuals for our Type II Handcrew. Applicants must be disciplined, reliable, physically fit, and are able to work hard under tough conditions.

TEST: Applicants must complete a 3 mile walk (no running) with a 45 lbs pack under a 45 minute time period.

REQUIREMENTS: IS 700, certification for returning individuals and a valid passport to enter the United States. Must turn in items before the packtest.

Contact Person: Firefighter Linus L. Mizutani Jr.
Email: llmizutani@dfems.gov.mp | Tel.: 285-7324

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Bernie Sanders is about us!

Tomorrow, Saturday, March 12, 2016, the NMI Democratic Party will caucus to select delegates to the Democratic National Convention in Philadelphia in July, where the party's nominee for President of the United States will be chosen.

The caucus starts at 6pm at caucus sites on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. On Saipan, the caucus will be at the World Resort Royal Taga Ballroom. On Tinian, it will be at the residence of former Senator David Cing in Marpo Valley next to Carolinas Hill. On Rota, it will be at the residence of Thomas A. Manglona.

I am writing this letter to urge all persons in the CNMI who will be 18 years of age or older by Nov. 8, 2016, not a "card-carrying Republican," and concerned about the future of our islands, our Commonwealth, our country, and the world to attend and support BERNIE SANDERS for President.

In January, our good Congressman, Gregorio "Kilili" Camacho Sablan, endorsed Hillary Clinton for President. While I have tremendous respect for Congressman "Kilili," I must in this instance respectfully disagree with him. I believe he made his decision prematurely and that with more time and thoughtful consideration, he will come to recognize that Bernie Sanders is the better choice for the Democratic Party nomination this year.

Hillary Clinton, if nominated and elected, would be the first female U.S. President, an achievement of monumental importance. As Kilili pointed out, it would make it unmistakably clear to his "five daughters—and to daughters and sisters and mothers everywhere in America– that a woman can become President (or anything else she wants to be)."

I would like very much to see the first female President and had hoped the Democratic Party would be able to follow the achievement of Barrack Obama with a woman at the head of the ticket this year. To that end, I and countless others campaigned vigorously to persuade Senator Elizabeth Warren to run. Senator Warren, however, declined to take on that challenge, believing her work in the Senate to be more important at this time.

As Congressman Kilili said in his statement back in January, "gender is not a qualification for president." As nice (and historically important) as it would be to have our first female President, the symbolism of a woman President must give way to the substance of leadership.

Hillary Clinton is a remarkable woman with remarkable achievements. If she wins the nomination, we all should do everything in our power to help make her the next President. But Hillary Clinton is not the best choice for the country or the Democratic Party in 2016. Bernie Sanders is.

For more than half a century, Bernie Sanders has not only "talked the talk" but "walked the walk." Since high school he has consistently and steadfastly conducted himself according to a set of core principles. He has never changed his position for the sake of political expediency, and his campaign is financed not by big corporate money but by millions of individuals making mostly small donations. (Bernie's campaign has received more than five million individual contributions so far.) It is "people power" in American politics, something no one thought possible before.

Bernie understands that climate change is probably the single greatest threat the world faces today and that humanity has less than a decade to address the threat before it becomes irreversible. Bernie understands the true causes of the financial crisis and how to correct it. He knows we must regulate "Wall Street" and do away with "too big to fail." He knows how corporate welfare and crony capitalism are destroying the American economy and the American middle class. And he intends to do something about it.

Bernie also is a voice of common sense and reason in military policy and national security. He voted against the disastrous Iraq war that cost us a trillion dollars, the lives of thousands of brave young American men and women (and perhaps one million Iraqis), and created ISIS. He is a champion of veterans of our armed forces.

He understands the importance of civil rights and civil liberties. He opposes warrantless electronic surveillance of millions of Americans by the National Security Agency. In college in the 1960s he organized protests against racial discrimination. He marched with Martin Luther King, Jr. and was arrested in civil rights protests.

He has executive experi-

See BERNIE on Page PB

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Oleai, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW-16-IFB-005

Repair of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR)
Division of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) Laboratory Building

Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for **Repair of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) Division of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) Laboratory Building,** Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after **March 11, 2016** at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001.

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **March 30, 2016 , 9:00 a.m. local time** at the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Division of Fish and Wildlife Conference Room, Lower Base, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **April 01, 2016** to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.

The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgment of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/9838 no later than ten (10) Calendar days before the scheduled bid opening.**

Sealed bids must be marked **"DPW-16-IFB-004"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, April 15, 2016.** Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, April 15, 2016**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **April 15, 2016** and the BID documents must be received at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **April 25, 2016**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, at **10:00 a.m. local time, April 27, 2016**. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **10:30 a.m. local time, on April 15, 2016**.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars **($25,000.00)** a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to bid submission.** Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations **§70-30.3-245**. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

1) Cash
2) US Gov't Securities
3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is One Hundred Twenty **(120) calendar days** upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at the rate of **One Hundred Fifty (US$150.00)** for each and every day the work is delayed beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ **JAMES A. ADA**
Secretary of Public Works

/s/ **HERMAN S. SABLAN**
Director of Procurement & Supply

/s/ **RICHARD B. SEMAN**
Secretary of Department of Land and Natural Resources

GENDER

From Page 17

strategies and skills to negotiate better pay for qualified and skilled individuals.

This year, Women's Affairs would like offer outreach and crises services for women experiencing gender inequality or social, economic and personal difficulties.

We would also like to have more fellowship meetings, skill workshops, seminars, scholarships and a help hotline to meet the needs of disadvantaged women, victims of domestic abuse, women in need of additional emotional, social, and economic support as well as to recognize, praise, and support women in leadership and women striving to live in parity.

We would like to hear from you and invite women to share their suggestions for more activities or programs they'd like Women's Affairs to offer.

For more information or assistance, you may call our office at 237-2237/38.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Department of Community and Cultural Affairs
Office of the Secretary
Caller Box 10007, Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950
Tel. (670) 654-2587 • Fax (670) 664-2571

CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT FUND (CCDF) PROGRAM
2016 SUMMER PROGRAM GRANT
ANNOUNCEMENT

The Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Program announces an opportunity for non-profit, community/faith based organizations to participate in a Summer Program Grant for 2016. This grant is open to organizations that offer Summer Program Activities to all school-aged children between the ages 6 to 12 years old (through 12). For this grant, a total of five (5) awards will be provided. CCDF has the right to award smaller grant awards as appropriate.

CCDF Summer Program Grant Application Packets maybe picked up at the
Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Program Office,
Building No. 1347 Ascension Court, Capitol Hill, Saipan MP 96950

Interested applicants should submit one (1) original and six (6) copies of the completed application and requirements, sealed and marked: CCDF Summer Program Grant Application 2016. **All applications must be stamped received no later than April 8, 2016 no later than 3:00p.m.** Incomplete applications will be returned. Faxed and e-mailed applications will not be reviewed and will be returned to the applicant.

Only written inquiries will be entertained. Inquiries regarding this grant opportunity should be addressed to Roselle Teregeyo, CCDF Accountant/Summer Program Lead before **March 25, 2016** and can be made in the following way:

1. In writing and forwarded to the address above or
2. Thru e-mail at ccdf.roselleteregeyo@gmail.com

All inquiries made after March 25, 2016 will not be entertained. Phone inquiries will not be accepted.

/s/ Maribel S.D. Loste
CCDF Administrator

/s/ Laura T. Ogumoro
DCCA Secretary

‘Colorectal cancer screening saves lives’

‘March is nationally recognized as national Colorectal (Colon) Cancer Awareness Month. Of cancers that affect both men and women, colorectal cancer is the second-leading cancer killer in the United States, but it does not have to be. Colorectal cancer screening saves lives. Screening can find precancerous polyps—abnormal growths in the colon or rectum—so that they can be removed before turning into cancer. Screening also helps find colorectal cancer at an early stage, when treatment often leads to a cure. About nine out of every 10 people whose colorectal cancers are found early and treated appropriately are still alive five years later.

It is important for both men and women to know what they can do to lower their risk of having Colon Cancer. The screening age for colon cancer for men and women is 50-75 years old and it reduces the chance of getting colon cancer. If you think you may be at higher than average risk for colorectal cancer, speak with your doctor about being screened early.

While screening rates have increased in the U.S., not enough people are being screened for colorectal cancer. In 2012, 65 percent of U.S. adults were up-to-date with colorectal cancer screening; 7 percent had been screened, but were not up-to-date; and 28 percent had never been screened.

Types of screenings conducted for colon cancer are: a High-Sensitivity FOBT (Stool Test), which is a set of two tests. One uses the chemical guaiac to detect blood. The other, a fecal immunochemical test (FIT), uses antibodies to detect blood in the stool. Stool tests are recommended once every year. Another kind of screening is a Colonoscopy. A Colonoscopy is when the doctor uses a longer, thin, flexible, lighted tube to check for polyps or cancer inside the rectum and the entire colon. During the test, the doctor can find and remove most polyps and some cancers. Colonoscopy is also used as a follow-up test if anything unusual is found during one of the other screening tests.

Your risk of getting colorectal cancer increases, as you get older. More than 90 percent of cases occur in people who are 50 years old or older. Other risk factors include having the following:

- Inflammatory bowel disease, Crohn’s disease, or ulcerative colitis.
- A personal or family history of colorectal cancer or colorectal polyps.
- A genetic syndrome such as familial adenomatous polyposis (FAP) or hereditary non-polyposis colorectal cancer (Lynch syndrome).

Lifestyle factors that may contribute to an increased risk of colorectal cancer include the following:

- Lack of regular physical activity
- Low fruit and vegetable intake
- A low-fiber and high-fat diet
- Overweight and obesity
- Alcohol consumption
- Tobacco use

Information on this page is provided by www.cdc.gov. ***(PR)***

MVA sponsors Hyatt Charity Golf Classic

Hyatt Regency Saipan is proud to announce that the Marianas Visitors Authority has joined as a major sponsor to this year’s 20th Annual Charity Golf Classic tournament.

Proceeds from the event will support the Make-A-Wish Foundation and The Northern Marianas Trades Institute.

This year marks an important year for MVA, as the agency celebrates its 40th year as the CNMI’s leading organization for tourism. The MVA has made it their mission to “promote and develop the Northern Mariana Islands as a premier destination of choice for visitors from throughout the world while providing a maximum quality of life for our people.”

MVA managing director Perry Tenorio stated, “To maximize our resources, the MVA and Hyatt Regency have often worked together toward our mutual goal, with Hyatt contributing over 35 years of service to the community and travel industry over that time. The MVA is pleased to again be a contributing sponsor of the Hyatt Regency Saipan Annual Charity Golf Classic Tournament. The proceeds of this tournament will benefit members of our community, and we applaud the Hyatt’s corporate responsiveness to support many charitable foundations throughout the years.” ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Hyatt Regency Saipan director of Rooms Rosalyn Quintanilla, Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Perry Tenorio, and Hyatt Regency Saipan director of Food and Beverage Ty Pauling pose for a group photo.

BERNIE

From Page 18

ence as mayor of Burlington, Vermont’s largest city, for four terms. With over 25 years experience in Congress, first in the House of Representative and currently the Senate, Bernie knows the Federal government through and through. He has the knowledge, experience, ability, and personal character to perform the function of President and Commander in Chief with honor and distinction from “Day One” in office.

Bernie also has the highest favorability rating of any candidate for President in either political party. In head-to-head polling match-ups with possible Republican candidates, he consistently performs better than Hillary Clinton, beating every possible Republican candidate by wide margins. In short, Bernie Sanders is not only the best candidate on the issues, he is the most electable prospective Democrat nominee.

Bernie Sanders is changing the face of American politics. Bernie Sanders intends to change the way business is done in Washington, D.C. He is committed, so far as possible, to removing the corrupting influence of money from government in America. This election is not about Bernie Sanders; it is about us. Bernie Sanders is about empowering the common people. Be the change you want to see in the world.

We can make our voices heard! We can make a difference! Come caucus with us tomorrow and help make BERNIE SANDERS the 45th President of the United States!

Stephen C. Woodruff
NMI authorized representative
Bernie Sanders for President

COLON CANCER:
ONE OF THE
TOP 5
CANCERS IN THE CNMI

Screening colonoscopies can detect colon cancer early, which allows for more effective treatment.

Both men and women are at equal risk

Risk factors include smoking, eating red and processed meat, lack of exercise, and excess body weight

Colon cancer screening should begin at age 50

People with a family history of colon cancer are at higher risk and should begin screening at a younger age

Sources: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, New York-Presbyterian Hospital and Commonwealth Cancer Association

For more information in the CNMI, please contact the Comprehensive Cancer Control Program at (670) 236-8727/28

This Ad was brought to you by the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation
Comprehensive Cancer Control Program under the Division of Public Health Non Communicable Disease Bureau
with 100% federal funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Triple J partners with Million Dollar Scholars

Kagman High School scholars and the larger KHS community extend their gratitude to Triple J Enterprises, Inc. for partnering with the school's Million Dollar Scholars following their recent donation of $1,500.

"Triple J is gracious to partner with Kagman High School as we prepare our students for the brightest possible future. We recognize that Triple J is making an investment in our students and that is a true investment in our island," said Million Dollar Scholars in a statement.

Members of the school's Million Dollar Scholars program said they will continue to work and make themselves career- and -college ready and that they graciously thank Triple J for helping their goal become a reality.

The Million Dollar Scholars is a select group of seniors at Kagman High School. They call themselves Million Dollar Scholars because they have a collective goal to be awarded more than $1 million in scholarships that they will use to attend college in the U.S. mainland.

"We will study together, travel together, and attend university together. We have banded together to overcome the obstacles, which have traditionally impeded students from higher education off-island: poverty, distance, loneliness, and procrastination. By forming a cohort we are stronger. We hope that by supporting one another, working with the strengths of our peers, we will be successful," said Million Dollar Scholars.

Triple J Enterprises senior vice president Jay Jones shared the following with the Million Dollar Scholars, "My father has always said 'Let's all remember to put more into the pot of life than we take out and leave some for those less fortunate.'"

His words resonate within the group of companies as Triple J Enterprises strives to build better communities.

This company said it is part of a solution to help bright and talented students on Saipan who are left out of higher educational opportunity succeed and fulfill dreams they couldn't otherwise fulfill without the support of organizations such as the Million Dollar Scholars of Kagman High School.

"Triple J is proud to be a partner and we support them in their efforts through this sponsorship," said Jones. ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Members of Kagman High School's Million Dollar Scholars pose with Triple J Enterprises, Inc. executives after receiving a $1,500 donation from the group of companies at the Triple J Motors location along Beach Road.

GEORGE LLOYD HASSELBACK, ESQ.
Law Office of F. Matthew Smith, LLC
2nd Floor, MIC Building, Chalan Monsignor Guerrero
San Jose Village P.O. Box 501127
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone No.: (670) 234-7455/234-7427
Facsimile No.: (670) 234-7256

Attorneys for Plaintiff Commonwealth Development Authority.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY Plaintiff, -vs- F.V. HOFSCHNEIDER, INC., HELEN H. ABAYARE, MARIA U. HOFSCHNEIDER, FRANCES H. DIAZ, and BANK OF GUAM, Defendants	Civil Action No. 04-0109 **NOTICE OF AUCTION**

The Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety, CNMI Marshal, or any other person authorized by law hereinafter referred to as auctioneer, and the Development Corporation Division of the Commonwealth Development Authority, hereinafter referred to as CDA, hereby give notice that all of the right, title, and interest of the Defendants F.V. Hofschneider, Inc., and Frances H. Diaz, in the following described, real properties situated in Tinian, CNMI will be sold at an auction:

Lot No. 004 T 29, situated in San Jose Village, Tinian, CNMI, containing an area of 2,063 square meters, more or less, as described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 004 T 00, the original of which was registered with the Land Registry as Document No. 100- D, on the 23rd of July 1970, including all existing and future improvements on the said property.

The auction sale will be open to the general public and will be held at the CDA Building, First Floor Conference Room, Oleai, Saipan, at **2:00 p.m., on Friday, April 1, 2016**, subject to the following announced terms and conditions:

1. **Minimum Bid. No minimum opening bid.**
2. Reserve. The auction shall be held with reserve.
3. Rights and Duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable law of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auctions with reserve, auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction:
   a.) To withdraw the property listed for sale in this announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted;
   b.) To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c.) To reject, on behalf of the seller, any and all bids.
4. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in this notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Manuel A. Sablan, Executive Director, Commonwealth Development Authority, P.O. Box 502149, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7145, Fax: 235-7147; or to George Lloyd Hasselback, P.O. Box 501127, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7455, Fax: 234-7256.
5. Deposit: Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten (10) days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check or *credit card. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will revert to CDA.
6. Change of Terms. Auctioneer and CDA reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
7. **Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact CDA for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of Defendants F.V. Hofschneider, Inc., and Frances H. Diaz in the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty, and subject to the redemption laws of the CNMI. Failure to inspect the real property or its title will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.**

Dated this 22nd day of February, 2016.

/s/ ROBERT A. GUERRERO, Commissioner
Department of Public Safety

*Master Card and Visa only. A 2% processing fee will be assessed on credit card payments.

CCA brings in new member; 'Bo' Palacios elected president

The Commonwealth Cancer Association is pleased to announce the election of Frank C. Aguon as the newest member to the CCA Board of Directors. CCA also re-elected Lauri B. Ogumoro and Bobbi Grizzard for a two-year term. The general member elections was held at the meeting of the CCA Board of Directors last Jan. 21 at the CCA Conference Room in Gualo Rai.

The election of board officers was held last Feb. 16 and saw the election of Roman "Bo" T. Palacios to serve as its president, Maggie C. Camacho as vice president, Grizzard as secretary, and newly elected director Aguon as treasurer.

In 2003, the CCA began as an alliance of volunteers and became formally chartered and incorporated in 2008. And in 2009, CCA achieved a tax-exempt under 501 (c)(3), status and since then has providing direct client financial assistance for qualifying assistance such as nutritional supplements and other personal needs, as well as offers certain types of medical equipment e.g. hospital beds, wheelchairs, oxygen concentrator, etc. as prescribed by a locally licensed physicians in the CNMI to those individuals who are receiving treatment for cancer.

Also CCA facilitates monthly cancer survivors support group meetings, and CCA engages in various awareness and outreach activities and has produced various educational publications such as brochures, fliers and DVD's for the islands' diverse community. The CCA organizes community events such as cervical cancer, oral cancer, colorectal cancer, breast cancer, prostate cancer, and lung and pancreatic cancer awareness, just to mention a few. The CCA also engages in programs such as early screening and detection, and patient navigation.

The CCA extends thanks to all of its partners, donors, and individuals who contribute to the successful programs of the CCA. The public is encouraged to learn about its programs and contribute to the very important and worthwhile work of the association. For more information, you can contact the CCA at telephone 682-0050 or via email at ccamarianas@gmail.com, or visit our website at www.ccamarianas.org. Or you can visit CCA office at the Gualo Rai Plaza Building, located along Chalan Pale Arnold Middle Rd in Gualo Rai. ***(PR)***

4 Saipan villages to experience water interruption

Commonwealth Utilities Corp. customers in the villages of Garapan, China Town, Puerto Rico, and Navy Hill will experience a temporary water service interruption resulting from a pump failure due portions of the cement wall collapse into the basin of the Maui 4 Shaft Well.

The extent of the collapse was assessed yesterday by the CUC water operators and engineering, however, they were unable to make the repairs to the pump and motor. Extensive repairs are needed on the existing cements walls that are 220 feet deep.

CUC water operators and engineers are working together to route water from other neighboring tanks in order to assist the affected areas. Water hours will be limited.

For more information, contact the CUC Customer Call Center (664-4282) or monitor our Facebook page for the latest updates (https:llwww.facebook.comlCommonwealthUtilities-Corporationl). ***(PR)***

TRIPLE J ETC CONTRIBUTION

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Representatives from Triple J Enterprises recently dropped by to make an Education Tax Credit contribution to Mount Carmel School. Left to right: MCS director of Institutional Development/Athletic director John Blanco, Tripe J Motors general manager Randy Steele, MCS president Galvin Deleon Guerrero, MCS Knight Richard Steele, MCS principal Frances Taimanao, MCS Student Council president Thomas Manglona II, MCS faculty representative Rosiky Camacho, and Triple J Marketing manager Jay Santos.

Bordallo visits Guam Small Business Development Center

HAGÅTÑA, Guam—Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo yesterday visited the Guam Small Business Development Center at the University of Guam.

The Guam SBDC is part of the Pacific Islands SBDC Network, which operates branches in Guam, the CNMI, Palau, Kosrae, Yap and Chuuk. The Network has supported economic development in the region by providing one-on-one counseling and training to local entrepreneurs.

Bordallo has been a consistent supporter of small businesses on Guam. In 2005, she included a provision in the surface transportation reauthorization bill known as the Safe Accountable Flexible Efficient Transportation Equity: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) Act that designated all of Guam as a Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) Zone. She has also supported the development of strong Small Business Development Centers throughout the nation, including advocating for federal legislation to appropriate strong funding for SBDCs.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Congresswoman Bordallo visits the Guam Small Business Development Center. From left, Guam SBDC Business advisor Jane Ray, PISBDCN associate director Dr. Pamela Peralta, UOG SVP-ASA Dr. Anita B. Enriquez, Congresswoman Bordallo, PISBDCN director Casey Jeszenka, UOG SBPA dean Dr. Annette T. Santos, and PISBDCN program associate Nicole Tesiro.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo is briefed on the work of the Pacific Islands Small Business Development Center's work to support local businesses on Guam. SBDCs provide critical assistance to local entrepreneurs by providing one-on-one counseling and training.

Pacific Islands SBDC Network director Casey Jeszenka said, "The Pacific Islands Small Buesiness Development Network serves Guam and five other islands in the Pacific region. I thank Congresswoman Bordallo for her strong support of SBDCs over the years. She has been an advocate for us and we wouldn't be where we are today without her working in Washington to ensure we receive federal funding to carry out our mission."

"SBDCs play an important role in supporting and training local entrepreneurs start and maintain businesses in our communities," said Bordallo. "The Pacific Islands SBDC in Guam has been critical to supporting hundreds of local businesses and they have provided millions of dollar in capital infusions into our economy. Just last year, Guam's SBDC provided assistance to 148 clients and had infused more than $4 million into the economy through loan assistance and equity injection. I commend Casey Jeszenka and the staff of Guam's SBDC for their tireless work. I look forward to continue supporting them as help local entrepreneurs begin and improve their businesses." ***(PR)***

2016 Chamorro Language Competition announces list of winners

The University of Guam Chamorro Studies Program held its annual "Inacha'igen Fino' CHamoru" or Chamorro Language Competition last March 8 and 9 at the UOG campus. Hundreds of students from both private and public schools throughout the Marianas gathered to compete in categories that tested their knowledge of speaking, reading, writing, and singing in the Chamorro language.

The theme of the competition was "I Fino' CHamoru: I Guinaha-ta, Iyo-ta yan Ta Fanána'I (The Chamorro Language: Our Abundance and Ours to Share with One Another)."

Below is the list of winners of the 2016 Chamorro Language Competition:

I. Eskuelan Elementario/Elementary Schools

A. K-2 Dinilitreha/Spelling
1st Place: Nathan Galas, Ordot-Chalan Pa'go
2nd Place: Antonio Cruz, Mt. Carmel Catholic School
3rd Place: Elah Amaqui, Inarajan

B. 3-5 Dinilitreha/Spelling
1st Place: Marcy Buekea, J. Q. San Migel
2nd Place: Dylan Babauta, Wettengel
3rd Place: Ryne Rosario, J. M. Guerrero

C. 3-5 Umestoriha/Storytelling
1st Place: Conner Salas, Mt Carmel Catholic School
2nd Place: Jared Chargualaf, Merizo Martyr
3rd Place: Javan Saralu, D.L Perez

D. K-2 Yininga'/Drawing
1st Place: Jordyn-Kohl Cruz, Merizo Martyr
2nd Place: Heaven Mabalot, Astumbo
3rd Place: Camielle Mesa, Mt. Carmel Catholic School

E. 3-5 Yininga'/Drawing
1st Place: Joanna Rose Labor Laguana, D. L. Perez
2nd Place: Khloe Chargualaf, Inarajan
3rd Place: Elianna Galvo Cuevas, D. L. Perez

F. K-2 Koron Famagu'on/Children's Choir
1st Place: Mt. Carmel Catholic School
2nd Place: J. Q. San Migel
3rd Place: St. Anthony

G. 3-5 Koron Famagu'on/Children's Choir
1st Place: P. C. Lujan
2nd Place: J. Q. San Migel
3rd Place: Mt. Carmel Catholic School

II. Eskuelan Talo'/Middle Schools

A. Sinangan/Oratorical
1st Place: Pulåni Peredo, Mt. Carmel Catholic School
2nd Place: Cielo Longa, Tinian Elementary/Jr. High
3rd Place: Chantilly Kaipat, Hopwood Junior High

B. Rinisådan Po'ema/Poetry Recitation
1st Place: Isa Ha'åni Longa, Tinian Elementary/Junior High
Jeresa Camacho, Mt. Carmel Catholic School
2nd Place: Caitlin King, Hopwood Junior HIgh

C. Tinige'/Essay
1st Place: Jaysen Santos, Mt. Carmel Catholic School
2nd Place: Elijah Santos, Mt. Carmel Catholic School
3rd Place: Janelle Tejano, Mt. Carmel Catholic School

D. Tinaitai Koru/Choral Reading
1st Place: Mt. Carmel Catholic School
2nd Place: Tinian Elementary/Junior High
3rd Place: Inarajan Middle School

E. Lålai/Chant
1st Place: Hopwood Junior High
2nd Place: Mt. Carmel Catholic School
3rd Place: Oceanview Middle School

III. Eskuelan Takhilo'/High Schools

A. Profisiente/Proficiency
1st Place: Kena Marie Muña, Marianas High School
2nd Place: Monica Cruz Lizama, Marianas High School
3rd Place: Jack Nicholas Rabago, Marianas High School

B. Sinangan/Oratorical
1st Place: Luis Cepeda, Marianas High School
2nd Place: Kaiya Martinez, Tiyan High School

C. Rinisådan Po'ema/Poetry Recitation
1st Place: Karen Agulto, Marianas High School
2nd Place: Kalea Engichy, George Washington High School

D. Kånta yan Baila/Dance with Song
1st Place: Marianas High School
2nd Place: JFK High School
3rd Place: Southern High School

E. Palao'an na Kákanta/Female Singer
1st Place: Monica Cruz Lizama, Marianas High School
2nd Place: Christy Cruz, Southern High School
3rd Place: Shaonnie Mendiola, JFK High School

F. Låhi na Kákanta/Male Singer
1st Place: Aaron Ramirez, JFK High School
2nd Place: Jesse Sablan, Marianas High School

G. Inintetpeten Kotturan Egge'/Dramatice Cultural Interpretation
1st Place: Marianas High School

H. Kåntan CHamorita/Chamorita Style Singing
1st Place: Marianas High School ***(PR)***

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT
INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB16-DPS-074

SUBMISSION DATE: APRIL 07, 2016 **TIME: 10:00 A.M.**

"UPGRADE OF THE CNMI AUTOMATED STATE IDENTIFICATION AND DRIVER'S LICENSE INFORMATION SYSTEM, A PROJECT UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY-BUREAU OF MOTOR VEHICLE"

COPIES OF THE SCOPE OF WORK MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

QUESTIONS FOR THIS ITB IS DUE NO LATER THAN THE **CLOSE OF BUSINESS, MARCH 29, 2016** SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO MR. JOHN A. DL. GUERRERO AT TELEPHONE NO. 670-285-9512.

THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS; IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

/S/ ROBERT A. GUERRERO
COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC SAFETY

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT
INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB16-DPS-076

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: APRIL 06, 2016 **TIME: 10:00 A.M.**

"PURCHASE OF 800 SETS OF LAW ENFORCEMENT UNIFORMS & 200 PIECES OF NECKTIE/HEADGEAR WITH ACCESSORIES FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY"

COPIES OF THE SCOPE OF WORK MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

QUESTIONS FOR THIS ITB IS DUE NO LATER THAN THE **CLOSE OF BUSINESS, MARCH 23, 2016** SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO MR. ROBERT A. GUERRERO AT TELEPHONE NO. 670-664-9001.

THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS; IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

/S/ ROBERT A. GUERRERO
COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC SAFETY

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT
INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB16-DPS/BMV-066 (A-C)

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: MARCH 22, 2016 **TIME: 10:30 A.M.**

"PURCHASE OF FOUR (4) EXECUTIVE TABLES & DRAWERS, THIRTY-TWO (32) STACKABLE CHAIRS AND SIXTEEN (16) FOLDING TABLES FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY – BUREAU OF MOTOR VEHICLE"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

/S/ ROBERT A. GUERRERO
COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC SAFETY

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT
INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB16-GOV/CIP-077 (A) (B)

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: APRIL 05, 2016 **TIME: 10:00 A.M.**

"PURCHASE OF ONE (1) ALL-IN-ONE DESKTOP COMPUTER AND ONE (1) LAPTOP FOR GOVERNOR'S OFFICE, CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM"

COPIES OF THE SCOPE OF WORK MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE COMMONWEALTH RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS; IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ VIRGINIA C. VILLAGOMEZ
CIP ADMINISTRATOR

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT
INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB16-MEDICAID-061

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: MARCH 31, 2016 **TIME: 10:00 A.M.**

"PURCHASE OF A SERVER (RACK MOUNTED) TO INCLUDE ONE (1) BATTERY BACK UP, ROUTER & SWITCH FOR THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR, MEDICAID AGENCY"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

/S/ HELEN C. SABLAN
MEDICAID DIRECTOR

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
MVA-RFP-16-2333

For: ARCHITECTURE, ENGINEERING & LANDSCAPING SERVICES
ON GARAPAN BEACH ROAD & CORAL TREE AVENUE

Closing Date: **March 21, 2016** Time: **3:00 p.m.**

Submit sealed proposals to: Marianas Visitors Authority
P.O. Box 500861 CK
Saipan, MP 96950

Interested parties may pick up the scope of work at the **Marianas Visitors Authority** office between 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, except holidays or by visiting the **MVA** website at www.mymarianas.com.

/s/ JAMES NELSON
MVA Vice Chair, Board of Directors

/s/ PERRY P. TENORIO
Managing Director

EVM extends kudos to Legislature

Empty Vessel Ministry Foundation would like to thank the following lawmakers: Sen. Sixto Igisomar and Reps. Ed Propst, Angel Demapan, Vinnie Sablan, George Camacho, Edmund Villagomez, Francis Taimanao, and John Paul Sablan for their time in partnering with EVM's Typhoon Soudelor disaster relief efforts. They have volunteered time and donated resources to help in offloading containers, distribution, and transportation.

EVM responded immediately after Typhoon Soudelor hit Saipan. Individuals affected by the typhoon came directly seeking help and other clients were referrals from the Red Cross and immediate DCM. Clothes, beddings, food, and water were provided to those in need. The response for aid was overwhelming to the point that the staff thought the store would be depleted of supplies. However, gratefulness is expressed for the generosity of individuals, businesses, organizations, both locally and off-island that began giving time and resources. To this day EVM is still able to assist those who need help.

Since August 2016, EVM has assisted 5,766 individuals with clothing, food, water, beddings, and medical and school supplies.

Half a container of hydro packets from the Operations Pacific Northwest group went to the Commonwealth Health Center. Aloha for Saipan team sent two 40-foot containers of goods and Christmas toys for children. Lawmakers from various precincts helped EVM to distribute the items and the toys were passed to 500 children of families whose houses were destroyed by the typhoon.

EVM's caseworkers continue to help with unmet needs, giving away donated goods at the store, and making home visits. In addition, EVM has been working with CHC in assisting clients requiring medical help and for those who are sick at home and n need of equipment; such as walkers.

EVM director Rose Smith said, "I have witnessed two clients that are now able to get around with the use of walkers. Thanks to Senator Glenn Wakai and Aloha for Saipan team in Hawaii for their donation of walkers to EVM. We also share database with Red Cross and Karidat as we all know the needs of our clients."

"We at EVM greatly appreciate all the donations that came our way to help out and for the ongoing income donations to further EVM's outreach work. Thank you from the bottom of our heart," she added.

EVM is located in Gualo Rai on Middle Road, across from EZ Mart and Bali Fashion. The office and garage thrift shop is on the second floor above Kylie's bakery. The office phone number is 235-2340. ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Empty Vessel Ministry staff receives donations of water from Sen. Sixto Igisomar's office.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

EVM volunteers receive donations of clothing and purses from Sen. Sixto Igisomar's family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Rep. Vinnie Sablan, his wife Roca, and their son pack donations for distribution.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Rep.Vinnie Sablan picking up donations for distribution to the Empty Vessel Ministry.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Rep. Edmund Villagomez helping with home visit distribution.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Thank you Operation Northwest Pacific for putting a smile on this client's face.

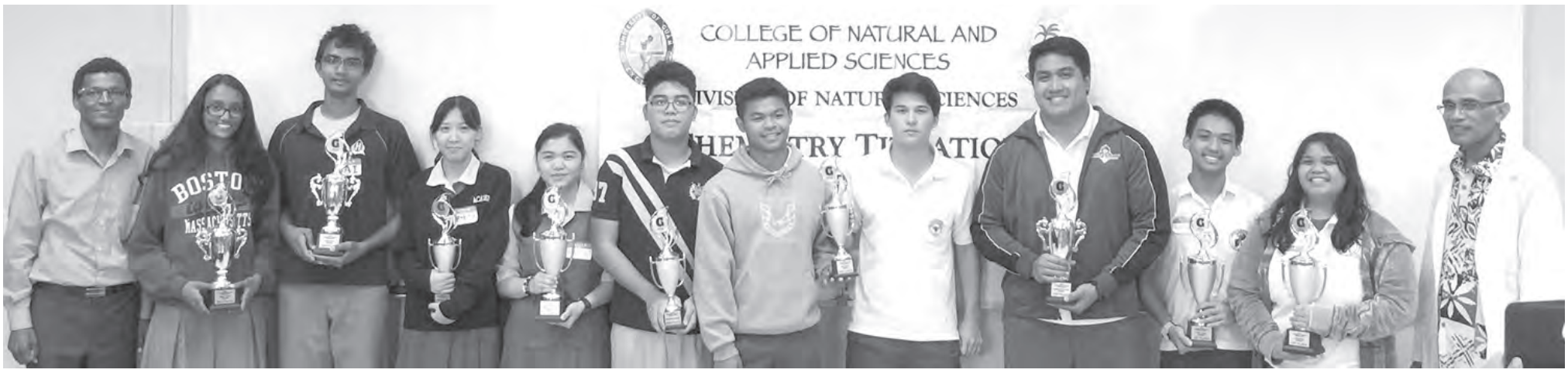
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Rep. George Camacho helping EVM with transportation.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Reps. Angel Demapan and Lorenzo Guerrero help in delivering donations to a client.

Winners of UOG chemistry tilt announced



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Dr. Tedros Bezabeh (UOG) Hashitha Gogineni, Sai Gogineni (Harvest Christian Academy), Jing Wang, Karen Bacalia (Academy of Our Lady of Guam), Ronaldo del Rosario (St. Paul Christian School), Nathaniel Santos, Juan Javier Lacson, Keone Aliphios, (Father Duenas Memorial High School), Kristan Aquino, Jerelyn Ollet (JFK High School) and Dr. Maika Vuki (UOG) pose for a group photo.

Twenty-eight students from seven high schools participated in 2016 University of Guam High School Chemistry Titration Competition, which was held on Charter Day, March 8, 2016 at the UOG Science Building.

The participating schools included Harvest Christian Academy, Academy of Our Lady of Guam, John F. Kennedy High School, St. John's School, St. Paul Christian School, Notre Dame High School, and Father Duenas Memorial School.

The students competed in three categories: Best Laboratory Skill, Best Individual and Best Team. First, second, and third places were awarded for each of the categories. The competition was coordinated by theUOG Chemistry faculty, staff and teaching assistants and sponsored by the Senior Vice President's Office and the College of Natural and Applied Sciences Dean's Office.

Best Laboratory Skill

First: Karen Bacalia, Academy of Our Lady of Guam

Second: Keone Aliphios, Father Duenas Memorial High School

Third: Jing Wang, Academy of Our Lady of Guam

Best Individual

First: Joerelyn Ollet, JFK High School

Second: Sai Gogineni, Harvet Christian Academy

Third: Ronald del Rosario, St Paul's Christian School

Best Team

First: Joerelyn Ollet and Kristan Aquino, JFK High School

Second: Sai Gogineni and Haeshitha Gogineni, Harvest Christian Academy

Third: Juan Javier Lacson and Nathaniel Santos, Father Duenas Memorial High School ***(PR)***

San Nicolas, HKE discuss Tinian Dynasty's closure

Upon receipt of the notice of Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino's hotel closure from March 5 to April 15, Tinian Mayor Joey P. San Nicolas communicated with Chun Wai Chan, HKE chairman, urging HKE to provide their plans on reopening.

In his March 4, 2016, letter to Chan, San Nicolas expressed his concerns as the closure "will greatly affect Tinian's tourism industry and upcoming signature events." Some of the upcoming events include the Micronesian Youth Conference from March 14 to 18 and the Annual San Jose Fiesta in May. San Nicolas and the Tinian Leadership also expressed their concerns about the welfare of the Tinian Dynasty employees and how this closure affects them.

In a response from Christopher Bishop, TDHC general manager, the mayor and the Tinian Leadership were assured that the arrangements for the Micronesian Youth Conference will not be affected and that Tinian Dynasty is expected to resume business prior to the San Jose Fiesta. Additionally, Bishop indicated

San Nicols

that their employees will be working minimal hours during the closure period and will receive free housing and low-cost meals.

According to Bishop, employees "will have full payrolls on both March 4 and 18; and they will be receiving five payrolls plus 25 percent liquated damages on March 15, similar to the more than five payrolls they just received late in February."

The economic effect on Tinian and especially the employees are a great concern for San Nicolas and the Tinian Leadership.

"We look forward to the reopening of the Tinian Dynasty and are committed to working towards increased economic activities and addressing the welfare of employees," said San Nicolas. ***(PR)***

CHARITY R. HODSON (F0487)
ATTORNEY AT LAW
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 502607 CK
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone: (670) 234-1615
Facsimile: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Petitioner Roselynn Camacho

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JOSEPH T. CAMACHO, Deceased.	**CIVIL ACTION NO. 16-0017** **AMENDED NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS** **Date: March 29, 2016** **Time: 1:30 p.m.** **Judge: David A. Wiseman**

TO: THE GENERAL PUBLIC, ANY HEIRS, CLAIMANTS, OR CREDITORS OF THE LATE JOSEPH T. CAMACHO OR HIS ESTATE:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that **Roselynn Camacho** has petitioned the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to issue Letters of Administration for the Estate of Joseph T. Camacho, the deceased. The attorney for Petitioner is **Charity R. Hodson, Attorney at Law, whose address is Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 502607, Saipan, MP 96950.**

The hearing on the Petition by Roselynn Camacho, as Petitioner, is scheduled to be heard on **March 29, 2016, at 1:30 p.m.** at the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All interested persons or entities should appear at this hearing.

Any and all persons, creditors, or entities having claims against the deceased or his Estate are hereby required by law to file their claims with the Clerk of Court within sixty (60) days of this publication or the claim(s) will be baited. A copy of your claim should also be sent to **CHARITY R. HODSON, Attorney at Law, at the address herein-above indicated.**

Dated this February, 2016.

/s/ Clerk of Court
Deputy Clerk of Court

February 9, 2016

TO: ROSA M. DELA CRUZ, individually and as Administratrix of the Estate of GABRIEL D. DELA CRUZ, Deceased:

You are in default in your Promissory Note dated August 1, 1988 (modified by revision agreements dated January 6, 1995, and July 27, 1999), secured by a Real Estate Mortgage of the same date, executed and delivered by you to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation.

(a) Description of the real property covered by Mortgage:

Lot no. 005 I 516, situated in Saipan, Northern Marianas Islands, containing an area of 743 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat no. 2084/82, the original of which was registered with the Land Registry as Document no. 14232, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.

(b) Date and amount of Promissory Note and Mortgage: Promissory Note dated August 1, 1988, $48,500.00
Revision agreement dated January 6, 1995, $76,333.33;
Revision agreement dated July 27, 1999, $71,185.77;
Mortgage dated August 1, 1988, $48,500.00.

(c)	Amount due for principal:	$8,150.63 as of February 1, 2016
(d)	Amount due for interest:	$50,935.51 as of February 1, 2016
(e)	Daily accruing interest:	$11.81
(f)	Late charges	-0-

If the principal, interest, and late charges of $59,086.14 as of February 1, 2016, plus accruing interest, together with reasonable attorney's fees in the amount of $500.00 are not paid within thirty (30) days from the date of service of this notice upon you, you will be in default, and Court proceedings will be commenced against you to foreclose upon the said Mortgage because of the default.

Unless you, within thirty (30) days after receipt of this letter dispute the validity of the claim, or any portion thereof, we will assume that it is valid. If you notify us in writing within this thirty (30) day period that the claim, or any portion thereof, is disputed, we will obtain information on the debt and mail you a copy thereof. Upon your written request within this thirty (30)-day period, we will provide you with the name and address of the original creditor, if different from the creditor indicated above.

This letter is an attempt to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

■■■■■

Ti un komple i kontratahan debimu (Promissory Note) ni un fitma gi Agosto 1, 1998 (ni un ribisa gi Enero 6, 1995 yan Julio 27, 1999), ni afabobot i Real Estate Mortgage ma asegurao i tano yan guma ni um empeña gi mismo dia, un fitma yan un entrega i empeña (Mortgage) guato gi Northern Marianas Housing Corporation.

(a) I deskripsion tano ni ma empeneň (mortgaged):

Sito numiro 005 I 516, ni gaigi gi Saipan, Northern Marianas, ni ha konsiste un aria 743 kuadrao metro, mas pat menus, ni anok gi Dibision Tano yan Dididan Tano ofisiat Cadastral Plat numiro 2084/2, i orihinat ni ma recodia gi Rehistrasion Tano komu Dukumento numiro 14232, guihi i diskripsion ni ma incorporate guini ginen i infotmasion.

(b) I kantida yan i fechan este na debi yan empepeña: Promissory Note gi Agosto 1, 1988, $48,500.00
Ma ribisa gi Enero 6, 1995, 76,333.33
Ma rebisa gi Julio 27, 1999, $71,185.77
Empeña (Mortgage) gi Agosto 1, 1988, $48,500.00

(c)	Kantida un debi para principat:	$8,150.63 asta ki Febreru 1, 2016
(d)	Kantida un debi para interes:	$50,935.51 asta ki Febreru 1, 2016
(e)	Interes kada dia:	$11.81
(f)	Apas pot atrasao (late charges):	-0-

Yangin ti un apasi i kantida na principat, interes, yan apas pot atrasao (late charges), $59,086.14 asta ki Febreru 1, 2016 yan interest, yan i resanable na apas abugado pot $500.00 gi halom trenta (30) dias despues di i fecha ni un resibe esta na notisia, un ma konsidera komo ti unkomple i kontratamu (default), ya siempre umatutuhun kontra hago a kausan kotti ni para uma kondena ya uma bendi i propriadat tano'mu ni un empepeña guato gi Northern Marianas Housing Corporation.

Solo yangin halom trenta (30) dias dispues de un resibe este na kata yan un kontra minagahet-ña pot i apudera sino komo i pattida, siempre bai in hongge an asientadu a apudera. Pago yangin un kattayi ham gi halom este i trenta (30) dias siklo man infofotma hao pot i apudera sino komo i pattida para un kontra, pues bai in henta infotmasion pot i dibi-mu dispues un ma kattayi i kopia pot este na de'unta. Anai in resibe i katta-mu gi halom trenta (30) dias siklo, bai in nai'i hao i na'an yan address i akredot komo ti parehu na akredot ma indika guini hulu.

Este na katta para u ma na'kesiña ma rikohi i debi-mu. Maseha hafa na infotmasion ni in resibe pot este na apudera – siña bai in usa para bai in ke-chagi mu rekohi para este i dibi-mu.

Su Seguro Servidor,

/s/ Michael A. White, ESQ.
Attorney at Law

ROBERT TENORIO TORRES, F0197
ATTORNEY AT LAW
PLATA DRIVE, WHISPERING PALMS (CHALAN KIYA)
P.O. BOX 503758 CK
SAIPAN, MP 96950
TELEPHONE: (670) 234-7859
FACSIMILE: (670) 234-5749

CIVILLE & TANG, PLLC
SIRENA PEREZ CASSIDY, F0338
330 HERNAN CORTEZ AVENUE, SUITE 200
HAGATNA, GUAM 96910
TELEPHONE: (671) 472-8869/69
FACSIMILE: (671) 477-2511

Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

ANZ GUAM, INC., formerly known as CITIZENS SECURITY BANKS (GUAM), INC., Plaintiff, vs. JESUS T. LIZAMA dba VICTORIA HOTEL, J&JEV ENTERPRISES, INC., and the BANK OF GUAM, Defendants.	] Civil Action No. 00-0296 D]]] (SECOND AMENDED)] NOTICE OF AUCTION and JUDICIAL] SALE]]]

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that under and by virtue of the Amended Judgment made and entered in the above titled action on 30th day of January, 2001, by the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to satisfy the amount found and adjudged due to Plaintiff ANZ GUAM, INC., formerly known as CITIZENS SECURITY BANK (GUAM), INC. ("ANZ"), in the above titled action from Defendants JESUS T. LIZAMA DBA VICTORIA HOTEL AND J&JEV ENTERPRISES, INC., as prescribed in the Order Directing Foreclosure Sale of Mortgaged Property filed on February 13, 2013, pursuant to 7 CMC § 4537(e) the undersigned counsel or his designee will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the **21st day of March, 2016** at 10 a.m., at the Law Office of Robert T. Torres, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, Saipan, the premises and real estate, lying and being on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, described in said judgment, to wit:

PARCELS 1 & 2:

a. LOT 001 D 13, (formerly known as Block 3, Lot 1), as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 001 D 00, the original of which was registered 30 SEP 70 as Document No. 512 at Land Registry, Saipan.

b. LOT 001 D 14, (formerly known as Block 3, Lot 2), as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 001 D 00, the original of which was registered 30 SEP 70 as Document No. 512 at Land Registry, Saipan.

And immediately thereafter, the sale of the following parcel of property:

PARCEL 3:

c. TRACT 21732-9, part of original Tract 21732-R1, AH 140), as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 2085/84, the original of which was recorded 08 AUG 84 as Document No. 84-1439 at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan.

Terms and Conditions of Sale.

1. Rights and duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
   a. Withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
   b. To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c. To reject any and all bids.

2. Bids. All the property listed in this notice shall be sold to the highest bidder at a public auction, without any warranty being given, express or implied, with respect to the title, possession, and encumbrances, to satisfy the amount due to Plaintiff ANZ GUAM, INC. on the date of the sale under the Amended Judgment as prescribed in the Order Directing Foreclosure Sale of Mortgaged Property. ANZ GUAM, INC. reserves the right to bid all or part of the amount due at the time of the sale.

3. Payment. A deposit of twenty percent (20%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale by the successful bidder. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or money order. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 20% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the property will revert to the Plaintiff, ANZ GUAM, INC., formerly known as CITIZENS SECURITY BANK (GUAM), INC.

4. Inspection. Interested bidders may inspect the property at the following times:
Parcels 1 & 2: February 26, 2016 at 3:00 p.m.
Parcel 3: February 29, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.

5. Change of Terms. ANZ GUAM, INC., reserves the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.

6. No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

DATED this 11th day of February, 2016.

__/s/_____
Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

Guam senator notifies Congress of efforts to assist vets

Guam Senator Frank F. Blas Jr. has written to two members of Congress notifying them of his efforts to give a helping hand to veterans living on Guam and other geographically disadvantaged areas.

Blas recently authored Guam Legislative Resolution No. 302-33 which encourages the United States Congress to introduce and adopt legislation that would create a special category (within the U.S. Veterans Affairs disability rating system) that provides increased compensation for veterans residing on Guam and other geographically-challenged areas in the Pacific. The bi-partisan measure was cosponsored by Senators V. Anthony Ada, Thomas C. Ada, and Frank Blas Aguon Jr.

Blas has written to Guam Congresswoman Madeleine Bordallo as well as Virginia Congressman Rob Wittman regarding his resolution. In his correspondence to Bordallo, Blas noted that he discussed this topic with Bordallo and Wittman during a February 20, 2016 meeting.

"… veterans in our region are still finding it difficult to access the medical devices they need and are not available on their islands," Blas said. "While many are appreciative that the Choice program has broadened their healthcare options, the availability of services on Guam and in our surrounding islands is severely limited."

Blas noted that the limitation often requires our veterans to travel, by air, thousands of miles away from their homes to get the healthcare they need. "While gone, many of them take the fear and anxiety of the welfare of their families with them," he wrote. "Sadly, these concerns factor in decisions on whether to leave their homes for treatment or not go because it is financially unaffordable."

Resolution 302-33 proposes the creation of a category within the VA disability rating system that is specifically for our region's veterans to help address the challenges in traveling to access health services provided or approved by the VA. This category, which can be named "geographically disadvantaged," should be provided to all veterans residing in our region and take effect only when the veteran is away from the island he resides and receiving medical or psychological treatment and care not otherwise approved and provided in our region.

Blas further added that he has had positive discussions on this matter with many veterans and island leaders from Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Republic of Palau, and the Federated States of Micronesia as well as Karen Gooden, Director of the Honolulu Regional Office for the VA's Veterans Benefits Administration. He says once the resolution is adopted locally he will transmit to Bordallo and Wittman and then work with their offices on the introduction of federal legislation to address this issue.

For more information, please contact Senator Frank F. Blas, Jr., at 687-1483 or via email at frank.blasjr@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

Lawmaker wants THAAD system permanently deployed in Guam

HAGÅTÑA, Guam—The Terminal High Altitude Area Defense or THAAD was first deployed to Guam on an "expeditionary" basis in April 2013, following North Korean threats to the Island.

Following the release of Guam's first permanent THAAD battery outside the continental United States, Senator Frank B. Aguon Jr. releases the following statement:

"Today, North Korea is believed to possess intermediate-range ballistic missiles, which potentially have the range to carry a nuclear warhead as far as the Philippines and Guam," said Senator Frank Aguon, Jr. "So, first and foremost, the THAAD missile battery is our island's protection against a North Korean missile launch."

The THAAD system is capable of shooting down short, medium, and intermediate range ballistic missiles. THADD is a land-based element that can shoot down a ballistic missile inside and just outside the atmosphere. It uses hit-to-kill technology; kinetic rather than explosive energy destroys the incoming warhead.

Aguon further stated, "The permanent stationing of the THAAD defense system will most definitely deter Guam's aggressors, while ensuring sustained protection against any new threats to the Asia-Pacific region."

With the support of Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo and members of the 32nd Guam Legislature, Aguon put forth Resolution 186-32 (COR) to call attention to our nation's leaders to permanently station the THAAD missile defense system on Guam. ***(PR)***

Democratic Party Saipan caucus moved to World Resort

The CNMI Democratic Party has moved the location of the Saipan caucus on Saturday, March 12, to the World Resort Royal Taga Ballroom.

The previous location of Northern Marianas College Room D-1 will no longer be the location. Registration for the caucus will start at 6pm.

On Tinian, the Democratic Party caucus will be held at the residence of David Cing in San Jose, while on Rota the caucus will be held at the residence of Thomas A. Manglona in Miling Kata An. Both Tinian and Rota caucuses will also be held tomorrow, March 12.

The March 12 caucus will be the first step in the CNMI's participation in this process. At the caucus, Democrats will elect delegates to attend the National Convention according to Presidential preference group. Nomination forms for delegates, and the rules for the caucuses contained in the party's Delegate Selection Plan, are available online at https://sites.google.com/site/cnmidemscaucus/. ***(PR)***

EU, SPC to support strengthening of Kosrae's emergency operation center

TOFOL, Kosrae—Training to help improve the response to natural disasters is under way in the Kosrae state this week, with a focus on strengthening the management of its emergency operations center (EOC) and helping the state respond better to disasters such as strong winds and storm surges which frequently impact the coastlines.

The EOC training, supported by the European Union funded Building Safety and Resilience in the Pacific Project, and implemented by the Pacific Community (SPC), is a capacity building initiative to improve the response to natural disasters.

Kosrae State Disaster Coordinating Officer and Chief of Staff in the Governor's Office, Nena Williams stated that the training is timely as the EOC is being activated more often in response to increasingly frequent strong winds and storm surges events affecting the island.

Participants are from the Kosrae State Government Departments, Kosrae based FSM national companies such as the Petroleum Corporation as well two from Nauru and two from Palau.

The training will be facilitated by regional trainers, Dr. Kirstie Méheux of SPC and Jowana Koroituinakelo of the Government of Fiji.

Following the training SPC will provide support to Kosrae State Government to develop Standard Operating Procedures for the EOC which will complement the training and provide a foundation for response to future emergencies.

The training will conclude on Friday, March 11, with a simulation exercise. The training is being held at the Governor's training room. ***(SPC)***

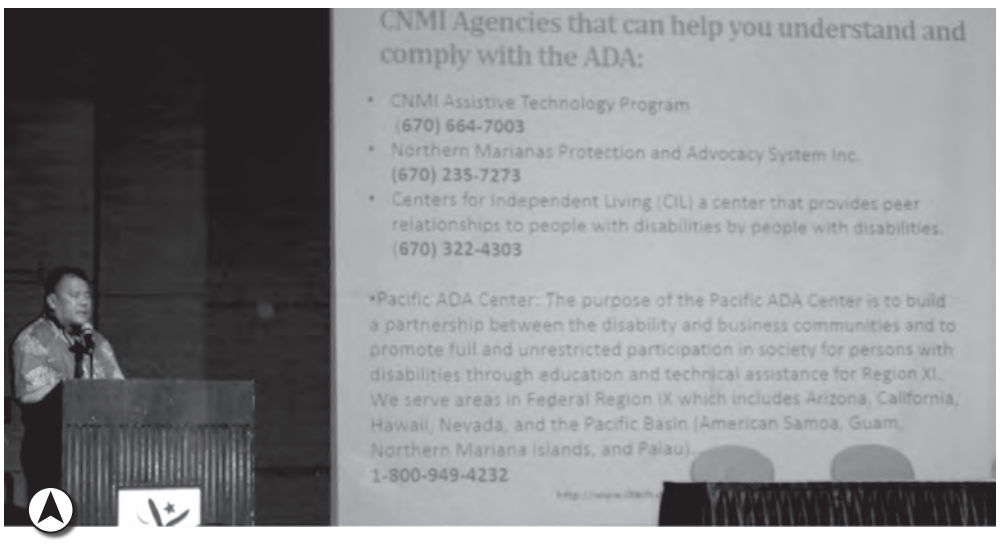
STATEMENT OF SUPPORT

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Bank of Guam signed a Statement of Support for the Guard and Reserve last Jan. 19 at their headquarters in Hagatna, Guam. Bank of Guam signed the commitment to increase employer support by encouraging fellow employers to act as advocates for employee participation in the military. Present during the signing are back from left, Danilo M. Rapadas, senior vice president/general counsel and chief risk officer, Bank of Guam; William D. Leon Guerrero, executive vice president/chief operating officer, Bank of Guam; Theresa C. Obispo, senior vice president of Human Resources Business Continuity Officer; Bank of Guam; Frank M. Atalig, senior vice president/chief financial officer, Bank of Guam; Joaquin L.G. Cook, executive vice president/chief sales and service officer, Bank of Guam; and Joseph P. Bradley, Bank of Guam senior vice president/chief economist. Front from left: Leonardo M. Rapadas, attorney/ESGR Employer Outreach; Benny M. Paulino, Ret. MG and chair emeritus, ESGR; Lou A. Leon Guerrero, president and chief executive officer, Bank of Guam; David J. Sablan, Guam-CNMI State chair, ESGR; Renie ³Rey² Llaneta, Employer Outreach director Guam-CNMI ESGR; Mary Ann Cabrera, awards coordinator, Guam-CNMI ESGR; Christine B. Quichocho, vice president/eBanking & Neighboring Islands Regional Manager, Bank of Guam; Jennifer B. Sanchez, vice president/Central-Southern Regional manager, Bank of Guam.

Developmental Disabilities Employment Awareness Month Conference

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS


CNMI Agencies that can help you understand and comply with the ADA:
• CNMI Assistive Technology Program (670) 664-7003
• Northern Marianas Protection and Advocacy System Inc. (670) 235-7273
• Centers for Independent Living (CIL) a center that provides peer relationships to people with disabilities by people with disabilities. (670) 322-4303
•Pacific ADA Center: The purpose of the Pacific ADA Center is to build a partnership between the disability and business communities and to promote full and unrestricted participation in society for persons with disabilities through education and technical assistance for Region XI. We serve areas in Federal Region IX which includes Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, and the Pacific Basin (American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, and Palau).
1-800-949-4232

Raymond Diaz, AT project coordinator, shares information during his presentation on Reasonable Accommodations & Assistive Technology (AT) in the workplace emphasizing how employers and their companies play a key role in eliminating barriers to work for people with disabilities and how AT is one of the mechanisms employers can use to accommodate the needs of employees with disabilities. Diaz was one of the presenters during the Developmental Disabilities Employment Awareness Month Conference held from March 7 to 9 at the Saipan World Resort.

Lillian Ada, DDEAM Committee chairperson/CDD planner, delivers welcoming remarks to participants (mostly young, aspiring self-advocates) during break-out session on Leadership & Advocacy Training: Peer training on self advocacy and the skills needed to be a leader.

John Demapan, Council on Developmental Disabilities (CDD) president/C.O.T.A. dispatcher, listens to presentations at DDEAM Conference with Carmen Blanco and other co-workers from the CNMI Office of Transit Authority.

Cynthia Attao, a long time self-advocate in the CNMI, joins other participants in listening to presentations about Developmental Disabilities Employment Awareness Month.

Mel Rebuenog, PAIMI Advisory Council chairperson/NMPASI Board member, listen to presenters.

Monika Diaz, Tinian V.O.I.C.E.S president, along with other self-advocates Jan Barcinas (Tinian V.O.I.C.E.S. VP), Emmet Fitial (S.I.L.C. president/Saipan V.O.I.C.E.S member), and Pam Sablan (CDD director) presented to other self-advocates during the Leadership & Advocacy Training: Peer training on self advocacy and the skills needed to be a leader. The objective is learning how to speak up for yourself and others.

Mom prefers being home alone over hanging out with friends

DEAR ABBY: My son is driving me crazy. He's worried because I don't have friends I hang out with. He said it's not normal for a woman to not want to have friends. I say it is. He said if Dear Abby says I'm OK, he will let it rest.

I work with people between 50 and 70 hours a week. I have more than a thousand townhome and condo residents to deal with, and I receive nonstop complaints day in and day out. On top of that, I must supervise vendors and contractors, answer to several boards, and have up to eight evening meetings a month.

When I finally get home, I don't want to set up a shopping or dinner date with anybody. I want to sit in peace and quiet. I don't want to be around people at all. I'm perfectly happy not having friends. Can you see my point?

LADY WITH NO PROBLEM

DEAR LADY: I do see your point, but I can also see your son's. By turning this into an either/or situation, you may be talking past each other instead of with each other.

While you crave peace and quiet at the end of the day, he worries that you are isolating yourself. Friendships aren't supposed to drain people; they are supposed to be nurturing. People with rewarding companions they can laugh and commiserate with are happier, less stressed and live longer, so perhaps you should rethink your position.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: Ten years ago, when I lived in California, I dated the love of my life, "Tammy." We were perfect together, and I was often amazed by how much I loved her, which was palpable.

After about two years we broke up, and I moved 3,000 miles away. My rebound relationship lasted a decade and produced a beautiful baby boy. After it recently ended, I reached out to Tammy. We hadn't communicated in 10 years, and I learned that she is married with three kids and she's miserable.

She said she misses me and has never stopped loving me. We talk on the phone often, and she says she wants to see me. I have no idea where this is going, but I'd love to see her. We have decided that we will abide by your advice. What should I do?

NOSTALGIC IN NEW YORK

DEAR NOSTALGIC: I'm glad you asked, although I doubt you will heed my advice. Here it is: You and Tammy should postpone any reunions until she has resolved her marital situation because there are more people involved now than just the two of you. Whether she remains in her unhappy marriage is anyone's guess, but if you step in now, it will only add to her troubles.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: How do I respond to a gift when I don't know whether or not it's a gag gift? My sister sent a present that appears to be expensive, but is not only awful, it's also tacky and weird. She has a great sense of humor, but added no card or message that would give us a clue how to appropriately thank her.

NOT SURE IN NEW JERSEY

DEAR NOT SURE: I recommend you use the old standby: "How sweet of you to remember (me, us, our special day, etc.). Thank you for being such a generous sister!"

■■■

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable—and most frequently requested—poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

DEAR ABBY

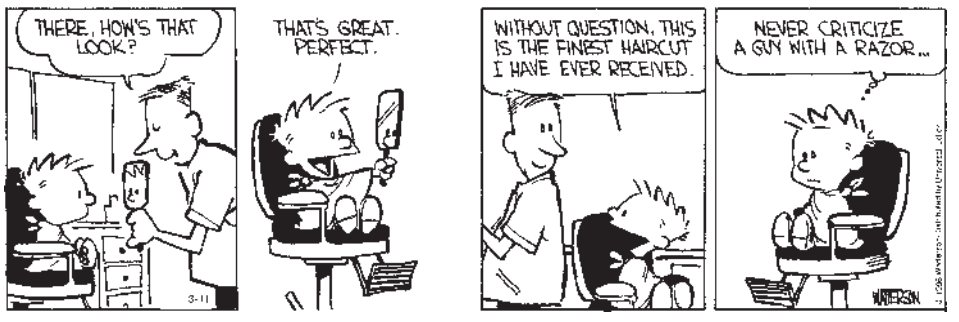
By Abigail Van Buren
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

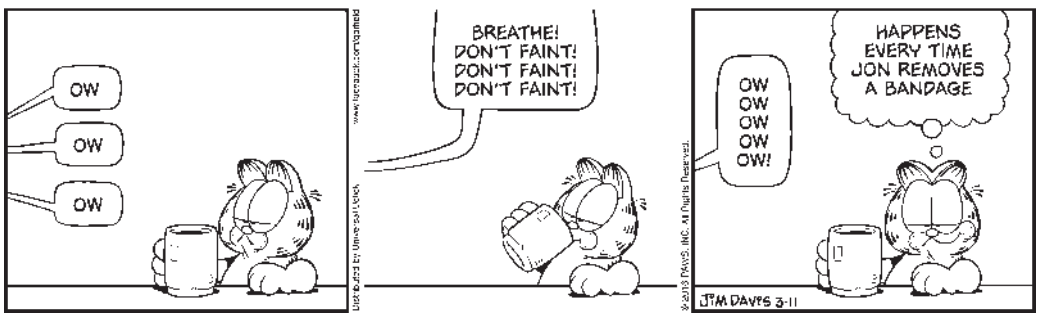
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


THERE. HOW'S THAT LOOK?
THAT'S GREAT. PERFECT.
WITHOUT QUESTION, THIS IS THE FINEST HAIRCUT I HAVE EVER RECEIVED.
NEVER CRITICIZE A GUY WITH A RAZOR...

Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

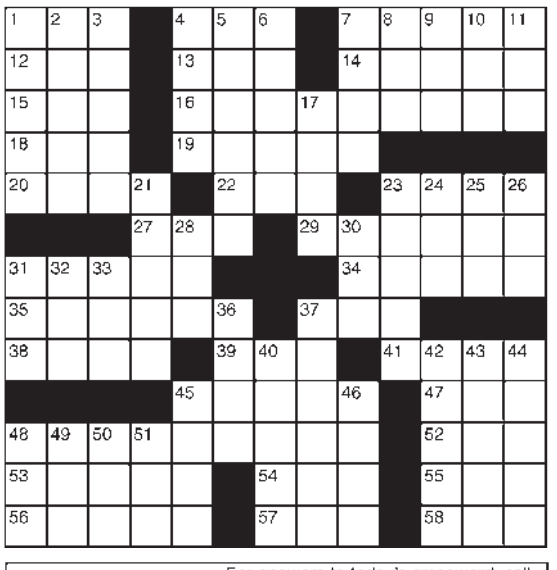
ACROSS
1 Soup container
4 UFO crew
7 Cheek enhancer
12 Grazing land
13 Common title start
14 Hypnotized
15 Succor
16 Cabaret offering
18 "There's — in team"
19 Viny shelter
20 Mentor
22 "You've got mail" ISP
23 Create
27 Upper limit
29 Handsome guy
31 Back tooth
34 Fuming
35 Canine coat
37 Born
38 Ms. Moore
39 Kimono sash
41 Clay-rich soil
45 WWII sub
47 First numero
48 Luau lighting
52 Bearded beast
53 "West Side Story" role
54 Jr.'s son
55 That man's
56 "Moneyball" actor Hill
57 Blitzer's channel
58 Golf peg

DOWN
1 Trolley sound
2 Vowel group
3 Bottom
4 Jazz singer James
5 Insect's middle
6 — -Croatian
7 Rhine feeder
8 Clip- — (some ties)
9 Japanese veggie
10 Mil. bigwig
11 Work unit
17 Pop choice
21 Savory taste
23 Portobello alternative
24 Literary olio
25 DIY buy
26 Jargon suffix
28 "We — the World"
30 Conk out
31 Dr.'s study
32 Single
33 Felon's flight
36 Timber wolf
37 B vitamin
40 Acid type
42 Should, with "to"
43 Sandy's owner
44 Point-and-click gizmo
45 Beehive State
46 Reedy
48 Mahal preceder
49 Diminutive suffix
50 Family
51 Call — day

Solution time: 25 mins.

A	L	E	■	M	O	M	A	■	N	A	S	A
P	E	G	■	A	N	I	L	■	I	R	O	N
E	G	G	P	L	A	N	T	■	N	A	D	A
■	■	■	S	A	T	■	T	O	T	E	B	A	G
M	A	H	L	E	H	■	S	U	V	■	■	■
A	G	E	■	D	C	G	■	B	E	L	C	H
P	U	L	P	■	W	E	T	■	H	A	L	O
S	A	L	O	N	■	M	A	L	■	Y	A	P
■	■	■	T	A	D	■	P	A	V	A	N	E
S	P	U	T	N	I	K	■	S	I	N	■	■
W	I	N	E	■	G	O	O	S	E	E	G	G
A	M	I	R	■	U	N	D	O	■	G	A	P
K	A	■	Y	■	P	A	U	S	■	G	M	A

Yesterday's answer 3-11



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Anton Yelchin, 27; Thora Birch, 34; Johnny Knoxville, 45; Terrence Howard, 47.

Happy Birthday: Make a point to be observant. It's important to stay on top of what's going on around you if you want to be successful. Make it your duty to understand how you can fit in or contribute to what is happening in your life both at work and at home. Your insight and support will result in praise and progress. Your numbers are 3, 11, 18, 23, 28, 36, 47.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Don't let nervous tension stop you from being productive. Stay focused and initiate what you need to do in order to reach your set goals. Your creative imagination will bring results far beyond your expectations. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Consider your options while keeping your budget in mind. Now is not the time to go against rules and regulations. Discipline and determination will bring you high returns. Travel will lead to a resurgence of the things you enjoy doing the most. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Stick to your game plan regardless of what others do. A realistic outlook will help you make the right decisions. Concentrate on making constructive domestic improvements. Accept the inevitable and move forward with courage and finesse. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Review your situation and do whatever you can to keep moving forward. Don't let what others do dictate your next move. Try hard to live in the moment and to let go of the past. Nurture important relationships and avoid conflict. ✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Step into the spotlight. Make a point to visit someplace that motivates you or that you have never been to before. A challenge you take on will pay off in an unusual way. Keep an open mind and shoot for the stars. ✪✪✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Express your thoughts and share your ideas, and you will come up with a workable arrangement. Show discipline and take control of a personal situation. Your practical attitude could attract someone you will want to spend more time with. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Favors will be granted. Do your best to get your finances in order so that you can take advantage of an exciting opportunity. Make a lifestyle change that will ease your stress and help you gain confidence and respect. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): An original idea will help you run your household in a more efficient manner. You will attract greater interest and support from partners, friends and relatives. Don't feel you have to accommodate others. Do your own thing. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Assess your situation honestly and start to implement the changes that will ease your stress and make you happy. Do what's best for you and move forward instead of giving in to someone who cramps your style. ✪✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): You'll have to defend your rights if you are too vocal about the way you feel or what you want to do. Stick close to home and work quietly by yourself until you have a presentation that is too flawless to oppose. ✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Past experience will help you make an important decision about the way you handle a similar situation. Consider new suggestions, and implement several different options. Self-improvement will result in compliments and success. ✪✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Put your skills to good use and you will find new ways to exploit your talents. Reach out to someone you enjoy working with and see where it leads. Money will come from an unusual source. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You choose quality over quantity. You are influential and forthright.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

3			8	4	7			6
	2						4	
		1				3		
			6		3			
8				9				3
			1		4			
		3				2		
	5						9	
4			2	6	9			8

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 3/11

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

2	1	8	5	3	9	4	7	6
6	4	3	7	2	8	9	1	5
5	7	9	1	6	4	3	2	8
8	3	7	6	9	2	5	4	1
4	5	6	3	7	1	2	8	9
1	9	2	8	4	5	7	6	3
7	8	5	4	1	3	6	9	2
9	6	1	2	5	7	8	3	4
3	2	4	9	8	6	1	5	7

Difficulty Level ★★★

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

MORE CELEBRITY BABY NAMES Solution: 5 letters

D	A	C	R	E	P	I	P	R	E	C	A	R	E	A
N	R	L	A	U	Z	A	H	A	R	A	A	I	L	N
A	S	E	A	L	D	I	V	A	N	E	S	E	A	R
L	E	O	H	B	I	I	T	O	B	O	H	C	O	G
E	M	C	R	P	A	C	O	A	S	C	C	G	Z	N
R	A	O	F	N	E	M	O	A	T	O	U	O	H	O
I	N	C	A	I	Z	H	A	A	R	E	L	A	P	R
X	A	Y	A	D	N	U	S	O	R	A	L	Y	P	T
Ⓚ	I	M	B	E	R	N	M	M	Y	U	T	P	N	H
Ⓐ	D	A	L	U	L	E	A	A	L	R	M	I	A	S
Ⓘ	N	L	H	S	M	D	H	L	E	A	A	E	A	M
F	I	E	C	P	D	S	A	B	L	S	T	I	R	O
I	R	O	H	O	E	T	I	I	V	E	L	E	N	T
F	U	I	X	N	O	L	Y	A	W	O	B	E	P	I
T	S	U	D	O	X	E	A	U	R	E	L	I	U	S

©2012 Universal Uclick www.wonderword.com Download the Wonderword Game App! 3/11

Alabama, Aleph, Aurelius, Aviana, Bear, Bella, Blue, Bronx, Calico, Coco, Diva, Elula, Exodus, Fifi, Finn, Gaia, Indiana, Ireland, Kai, Kimber, Leno, Levi, Liberty, Maddox, Maple, Memphis, Moon, Moroccan, Names, North, Otis, Petal, Piper, Racer, Rogue, Rumer, Sailor, Saint, Satchel, Scout, Shaya, Shepherd, Sosie, Sunday, Suri, Tallulah, Tara, Waylon, Zahara, Zita, Zola, Zuma

Yesterday's Answer: Express

Jo's Jewels Collector's Edition is back by popular demand! Purchase online at www.WonderWordBooks.com or call 1-800-642-6480. (Contains 120 puzzles.)

CLASSIFIED ADS

WHATZIT Solution: Slice of life

EMPLOYMENT

1-Violin Instructor. 3 years experience. Myong Run Corp. dba Doremi Music School. Tel. 233-7777.

(2) Bookkeeper, (8) Houseworker, (2) Computer Support Specialist. Minimum Salary. Mail resume to MTO Maintenance (Saipan), Inc. at P.O. Box 504053, Saipan, MP 96950.

Subscribe to the CNMI's First Daily Newspaper. Call 235-NEWS

USED GUNS WANTED
looking to buy functional used guns, good conditions and registered; mini-14, 22 caliber, 41OS.
Please call 483-5155

Vacancy Announcement
(2) Maintenance - Atleast high school graduate. A valid driver's license. Ability to use efficiently various power and hand tools. Knows how to follow oral written instructions and can communicate efficiently and fluently in both witten and oral form.
Submit Applications To:
AYD Services, Inc.
Tel. # 235-7011

LEAVING ISLAND SALE
Items available are the following:
- House items
- Restaurant items
- Auto shop items
- Assorted Store items

Start: March 10, 2016
For inquiries, call Lilly at 285.6666 or visit Restaurant across 13 Fishermen Utt next to Saipan Computer, Beach Road

Job Vacancy Announcement
MUSICIAN
With five (5) years minimum experience as a professional musician. Must have the ability to sing, harmonize and play musical instruments, preferably keyboards, as soloists or as a member of the band. Be able to perform several musical styles/music genre to various customers such as but not limited to Japanese, Korean & Chinese.
An extensive experience in entertaining live audiences in Hotel lobbies, concert halls, and Casino is an advantage.
Competent in the use of musical sequencer, synthesizers and PA systems.
Experience as sound technician is an advantage.
Email resume to
PIAO INVESTMENT CORPORATION
(mapagahes@gmail.com)

Warehouse for RENT
REM LOWERBASE
Warehouse #3 - Size: 6,000sq/ft
$0.65 per sq/ft. Negotiable
FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL
235-6527/28 or 285-1317

Backhoe for Rent
For inquiries, please call
285-0478
- Security Services
- General Help Supply Services
- Heavy Equipment Rental
- Auto & Heavy Equipment Repair Shop

WANTED IMMEDIATELY
Receptionist/ Front Desk Clerk
With minimum 2 years experience
Salary will commensurate with applicant's knowledge and experience
Interested applicants may pick up an application form at H.S Lee Construction, Co. Inc. office, from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM; located at the second floor of Highway Express Auto Shop Building in Middle Road.

WANTED IMMEDIATELY
All Around Auto Mechanic
- With minimum 2 years of experience
- Salary will commensurate for applicant's knowledge and experience

Interested applicants may pick up an application form from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM at the Ground floor building of D&W Saipan Inc. dba Highway Express Auto Shop in Middle Road.

Whispering Palms School is seeking dynamic K-8 teachers for the 2016-17 school year.

We are a small, non-profit private school with multigrade classrooms and a family-style atmosphere.

Teachers are encouraged to be creative with their instructional methods to maximize student engagement and learning.

Qualified candidates must have a current K-8 teaching credential, preferably with a master's degree and 2+ years of classroom teaching experience.

If you are interested in applying or would like more information please contact us at whisperingpalmsofsaipan@gmail.com or call (670) 323-7451.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
GPPC, INC.

(01) Architectural Drafter Tech.
Rate: $9.32/hr. or $2,100.00/month or commensurate to experience and qualification.

College graduate with a minimum of 2 years experience as an Architectural Technician. Capable of preparing detailed drawings of architectural/structural features of buildings as well as drawings and photographic relief maps used in civil engineering projects such as highways, bridges and other public works. Knowledgeable on building materials engineering practices/mathematics used to complete drawings drafts.

Interested applicants may apply at GPPC, INC. office located at As Perdido, Saipan, CNMI. A copy of police clearance must be attached to the application. Incomplete application will NOT be accepted. Skills, testing maybe required.
GPPC, INC is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Closing date will be on March 14, 2016.

JOB VACANCY

Construction Finance and Forecasting Specialist
Number of Openings: 1
Job Duties: Arrange for financing of materials and supplies for a multi-billion dollar project. Prepare estimates for use in selecting vendors or subcontractors. Confer with engineers, architects, owners, contractors and subcontractors on changes and adjustments to cost estimates. Prepare estimates used by executive management for purposes such as planning, organizing and scheduling work. Ensure the timely provision of capital for all activities on the projects. Provide input into project establishment and set up as required.
Qualification Requirements: 2-4 years of experience in the construction industry. 2-4 years of experience in the finance industry.

To apply for this position, you are required to email your detailed resume to recruitment@bestsunshine.com or drop off an application to the Best Sunshine Office located on the 3rd floor of the Bank of Guam building in Garapan.

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following positions:

(1) Executive Assistant
Key Functions: The Executive Assistant will help the Executive Officer and the President maintain organizational relationships and act as the main point of contact particularly for business partners and customers in and from China, as well as colleagues and peers in the local Chinese Community. The Executive Assistant should support the management of the President's time and calendar to ensure that the President is fully informed and prepared for all meetings with such stakeholders and to assist in organizing events. The Executive Assistant should be highly organized, able to multi-task and manage multiple time-sensitive demands, have exceptional inter-personal and communication skills and support the mission of the organization. This professional must possess a combination of strategic thinking skills and the demonstrated ability to implement and manage the daily logistical demands of a project centered staffs who work cross functionally to respond to the needs of the organization and its constituents.

Job Requirements: Must be a college graduate with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration and/or Information Technology. With excellent English and Chinese communication skills both oral and written. Must possess experience in MS Office suite. One-year related experience in administrative functions an advantage. Service-oriented, with strong organizational skills, active listening and active learning required. Must be open to a variety of responsibilities, changing assignments, and be an overall team player.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. Human Resources Office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Wednesday, March 23, 2016.

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Qualified women, minorities and persons with disability are encouraged to apply.

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following positions:

(1) IT (Network Administrator Assistant)
Associate's degree in any computer science, information technology or other related areas. At least 2 years of work related experience or equivalent training and skills in local and wide area networks management and administration. Must be Cisco Certified, with knowledge in system configuration, set up and troubleshooting for both hardware and software. Must have knowledge of Spiceworks. Can work flexible hours depending on demand.

(3) General Maintenance Worker
High school diploma or GED certificate or any combination of education, training, and experience which demonstrates ability to perform carpentry, plumbing, glass replacement, painting, masonry, grounds keeping, appliance repair, and electrical wiring; standard practices and use a variety of hand and power tools used in the maintenance and repair of building facilities. Must be able to work flexible hours. Can work outdoors.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. Human Resources Office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Wednesday, March 23, 2016.

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Qualified women, minorities and persons with disability are encouraged to apply.

SECTION 8 VOUCHER ACCEPTED

NEW 2, 3, and 4 bedroom energy efficient apartments in Saipan. Lower utility costs up to 70% through solar panels and solar hot water.

NOW LEASING
Starting @ $599/mo.

OPEN HOUSE
MONDAY - FRIDAY • 9AM - 4PM
For pictures, amenities, and application information visit our website
www.ironwoodhousing.com
or call 670-233-4348. Applications are being accepted Monday - Friday, 8:30a.m. to 5:00p.m. and on Saturday, 9:00a.m. to 12:00p.m., at Ironwood Community Center on Middle Road, Gualo Rai.

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as $30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$30
• 5-Liner	$24	$45

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

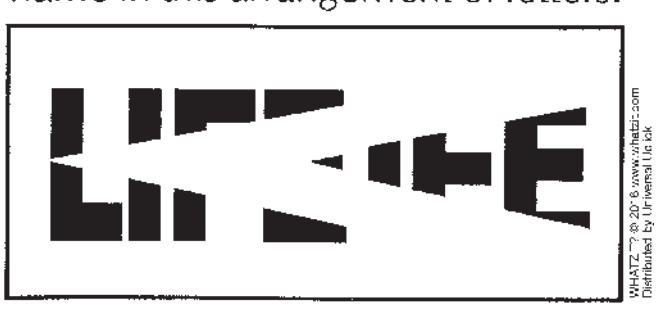
CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?™
Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames

Find today's solution in classified section

Curry 55-foot buzzer beater highlights Warriors win

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—Stephen Curry made a zippy crossover to shed his defender then banked in a 55-footer at the halftime buzzer, and the Golden State Warriors extended their record regular-season home winning streak to 46 by beating the Utah Jazz 115-94 on Wednesday night.

Klay Thompson scored 23 points while Curry wound up with 12 points and 10 assists on a quiet night in which he struggled to find his stroke early. Draymond Green added 17 points, seven rebounds and five assists as Golden State (57-6) improved to 28-0 at Oracle Arena this season.

Curry is 4 for 11 on shots from 40-plus feet (36.4 percent) this season and 13 of 27 (48.1) from 30 feet and beyond. He missed his first five shots and four 3s but dished out six first-quarter assists.

Trey Burke led the Jazz with 18 points off the bench, while Rudy Gobert had 15 rebounds.

Curry hit a 3 for his first points 3:12 before halftime to avoid his first scoreless half since Nov. 23, 2012, at Denver. Curry then let it fly from beyond half court as the clock expired for yet another jaw-dropping 3 for a 52-41 lead at the break, taking off in an all-out sprint for the tunnel without celebrating as his teammates collectively threw their arms in the air in admiration and awe.

Cavaliers 120, Kings 111

In Sacramento, Kevin Love converted a four-point play with 1:32 remaining, Kyrie Irving scored 30 points and the Cleveland Cavaliers hung on to beat the Sacramento Kings 120-111 on Wednesday night.

LeBron James had 25 points and 11 rebounds, one of three Cleveland players with a double-double. Tristan Thompson added 18 points and 15 rebounds, and Love finished with 17 points and 10 boards.

DeMarcus Cousins had 29 points and 11 rebounds for the Kings, who trailed 109-100 with under 5 minutes to play before using an 8-0 run to close within one.

Thunder 120, Clippers 108

In Oklahoma City, Russell Westbrook had 25 points, a career-high 20 assists and 11 rebounds to help the Oklahoma City Thunder beat the Los Angeles Clippers 120-108 on Wednesday night.

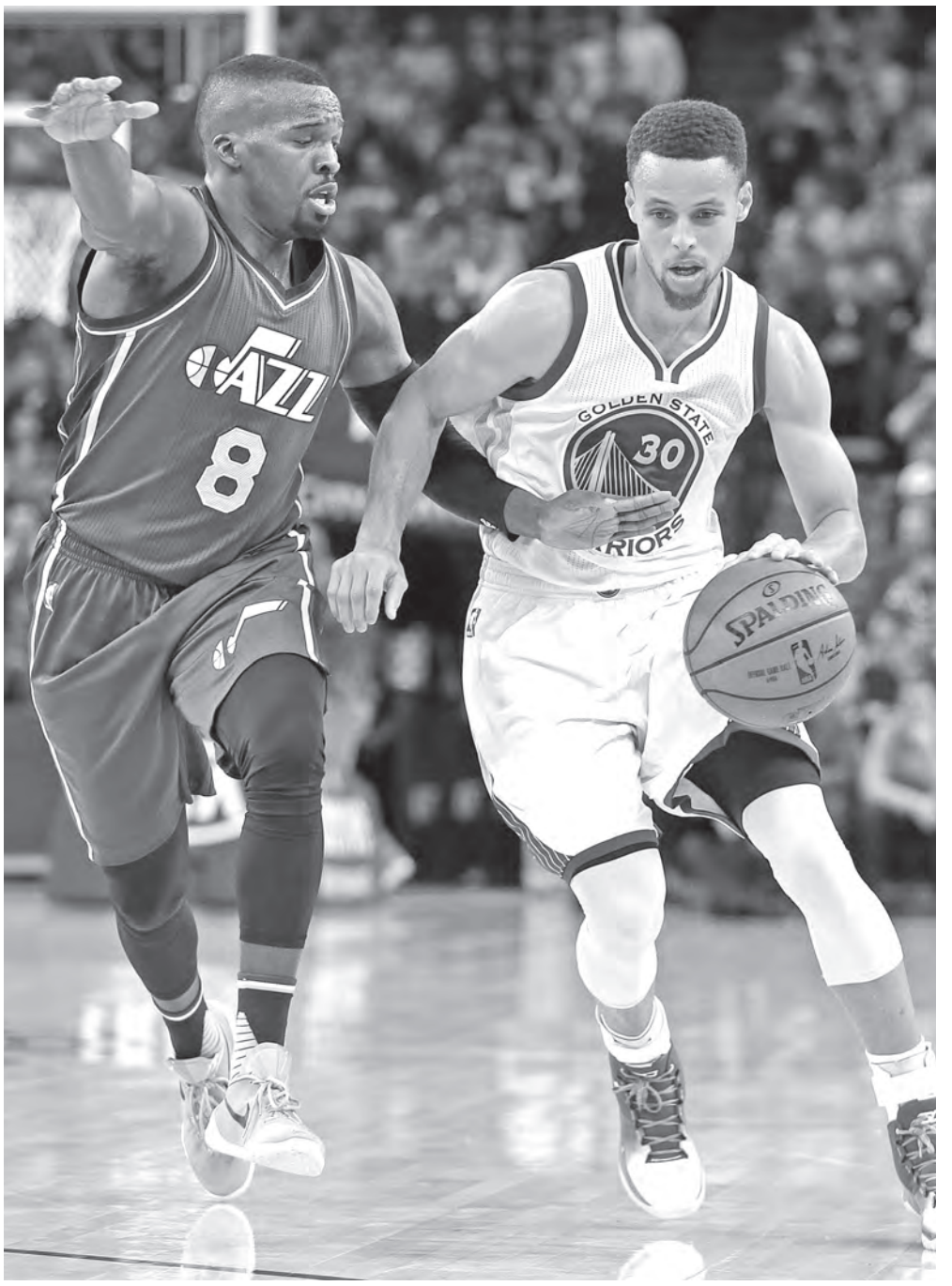
According to STATS, it was the first triple-double with at least 20 points and 20 assists since Rod Strickland did it for the Washington Wizards in 1998.

It was the 30th triple-double of Westbrook's career and his 11th this season. The Thunder are unbeaten this season when Westbrook gets a triple-double.

Celtics 116, Grizzlies 96

In Boston, Isaiah Thomas scored 16 of his 22 points in the third quarter, when Boston turned a three-point deficit into a 16-point lead before coasting past Memphis for its 14th straight home victory.

The Celtics have not lost in Boston in more than two months, a span that has seen them climb from ninth in the East into the conference's No. 3 seed.



AP

Golden State Warriors' Stephen Curry, right, drives the ball against Utah Jazz's Shelvin Mack (8) during the first half of an NBA basketball game Wednesday, March 9, 2016, in Oakland, Calif.

Two nights after surprising East-leading Cleveland—despite being without four starters—Memphis sustained a collapse that was exacerbated by the loss of guard Mario Chalmers in the third quarter to what the team called a right foot injury. Chalmers did not appear to sustain any contact before pulling up and then needing assistance off the court, unable to put any weight on his leg.

JaMychal Green had 17 points and 13 rebounds for the Grizzlies.

Hornets 122, Pelicans 113

In Charlotte, Kemba Walker scored 35 points, and Charlotte held off New Orleans for its 11th victory in 13 games.

Walker shot 9 of 18 from the field and had five 3-pointers for his fourth-straight 30-point game. He also added seven assists and seven rebounds for Charlotte.

Courtney Lee had 16 points and Nicolas Batum added 15 as all five Charlotte starters reached double figures in scoring midway through the third quarter.

Anthony Davis had 40 points and 13 rebounds, and Jure Holiday scored a season-high 38 points for New Orleans. The injury-plagued Pelicans fell to 7-24 on the road.

Pistons 102, Mavericks 96

In Dallas, Marcus Morris scored 20 points, including two 3-pointers during a decisive fourth-quarter run, and Andre Drummond had 25 points and 17 rebounds in Detroit's victory over Dallas.

Drummond leads the NBA with 54 double-doubles. Tobias Harris added 19 points for Detroit.

Chandler Parsons and Dirk Nowitzki each scored 25 points for Dallas. The Mavericks have lost a season-high four straight games.

Bucks 114, Heat 108

In Milwaukee, Giannis Antetokounmpo scored 24 points and Khris Middleton made four free throws in the closing seconds to help Milwaukee hold off Miami.

Jabari Parker added 23 points, Middleton had 22, and Miles Plumlee scored a season-high 18 for the Bucks. They snapped the Heat's winning streak at five games.

Luol Deng had 20 points and 11 rebounds for Miami. Hassan Whiteside added 23 points and 13 rebounds, and Dwyane Wade had 18 points.

After Wade scored on a fast-break layup to cut it to 110-106, Middleton made two free throws. Joe Johnson scored off a pass from Wade, but Middleton answered with two more free throws.

Rockets 118, Sixers 104

In Philadelphia, James Harden scored 29 points and Dwight Howard added 21 points and 18 rebounds to help Houston beat Philadelphia.

Patrick Beverly added 16 points -- all in the first half -- and Trevor Ariza finished with 15 for Houston. The Rockets, who are currently holding the eighth and final playoff spot in the Western Conference, have won three of their last four to even their record at .500.

Ish Smith scored 21 points and Nerlens Noel and Robert Covington had 17 points apiece for the 76ers. They have lost 13 straight to drop to 8-56.

Knicks 128, Suns 97

In Phoenix, Sasha Vujacic scored a season-high 23 points in a rare start, Carmelo Anthony also had 23 and New York beat Phoenix.

Vujacic was 7 of 8 from the field and tied a career high by going 6 of 7 from 3-point range. He made his first start since last November and had not played in two of the Knicks' last three games.

The Knicks hit a season-high 16 3s. Derrick Williams scored 18 points and Jose Calderon added 10 points and 12 assists. Rookie Devin Booker led Phoenix with 32 points.

For first time in years, Phillies don't have a proven ace

CLEARWATER, Fla. (AP)—Four Aces to none.

The Philadelphia Phillies will enter their first season without any remaining members from a star-studded rotation that was baseball's best for a year in 2011.

Roy Halladay, Cliff Lee, Roy Oswalt and Cole Hamels helped the Phillies win a franchise-record 102 games and their fifth straight NL East title five years ago. But the Phillies lost to St. Louis in the division series and haven't reached the playoffs the past four seasons.

Halladay, Lee and Oswalt have retired. Hamels was traded to Texas last summer. Rebuilding Philadelphia has a group of prospects and a couple veterans, but no clear-cut No. 1 starter yet.

Jeremy Hellickson, the 2011 AL Rookie of the Year, and Charlie Morton were added in the offseason to give the starting staff more experience. Second-year starters Aaron Nola and Jerad Eickhoff will join them in the rotation. The fifth spot is up for grabs this spring with several guys competing for the job, including Adam Morgan, Vince Velasquez and Brett Oberholtzer.

Mark Appel, a former No. 1 overall draft pick, Jake Thompson and Zach Elfin are top prospects who could pitch in Philadelphia later this season.

"I want the guys that can get people out," manager Pete Mackanin said.

Hellickson was 9-12 with a 4.62 ERA for Arizona last season. He pitched his first five seasons for Tampa Bay and has a 49-48 career record with a 3.94 ERA. The right-hander, who turns 29 in April, is the likely candidate to start opening day. He was scratched Wednesday because of the flu.

"I'm just trying to get to know the guys and answer any questions they have," Hellickson said of mentoring the younger pitchers. "They know they just have to keep doing what they've done to get here and not worry about all that other stuff."

The 32-year-old Morton was 9-9 with a 4.81 ERA for Pittsburgh last year. He's 45-70 with a 4.54 ERA in seven seasons for the Pirates and one for the Braves. Morton is a groundball pitcher who is looking forward to pitching at hitter-friendly Citizens Bank Park.

"If you can pitch to contact and pitch to weak contact, especially ground balls, I think you'll do really well," he said.

Nola the 7th overall pick in the 2014 draft, fast-tracked to the majors and went 6-2 with a 3.59 ERA in 13 starts in 2015. Eickhoff, acquired in the Hamels' trade, was 3-3 with a 2.65 ERA in eight starts. A broken right thumb has slowed Eickhoff, but he's expected to be ready for the start of the season.

Morgan was 5-7 with a 4.48 ERA in 15 starts last year. The lefty tossed three scoreless innings on Tuesday.

"The competition in here is just making everybody else better," Morgan said.

Velasquez and Oberholtzer both were acquired in the trade that sent closer Ken Giles to Houston. Velasquez was 1-1 with a 4.37 ERA in 19 games, including seven starts in 2015.

Broncos hurting, Panthers healing in early free agency

DENVER (AP)—Brock Osweiler left Denver. Doug Martin remained in Tampa.

Alex Mack left Cleveland and DeMarco Murray was traded to Tennessee. Mike Tolbert remained in Carolina.

In a flurry of shuffling and staying put, NFL free agency began Wednesday.

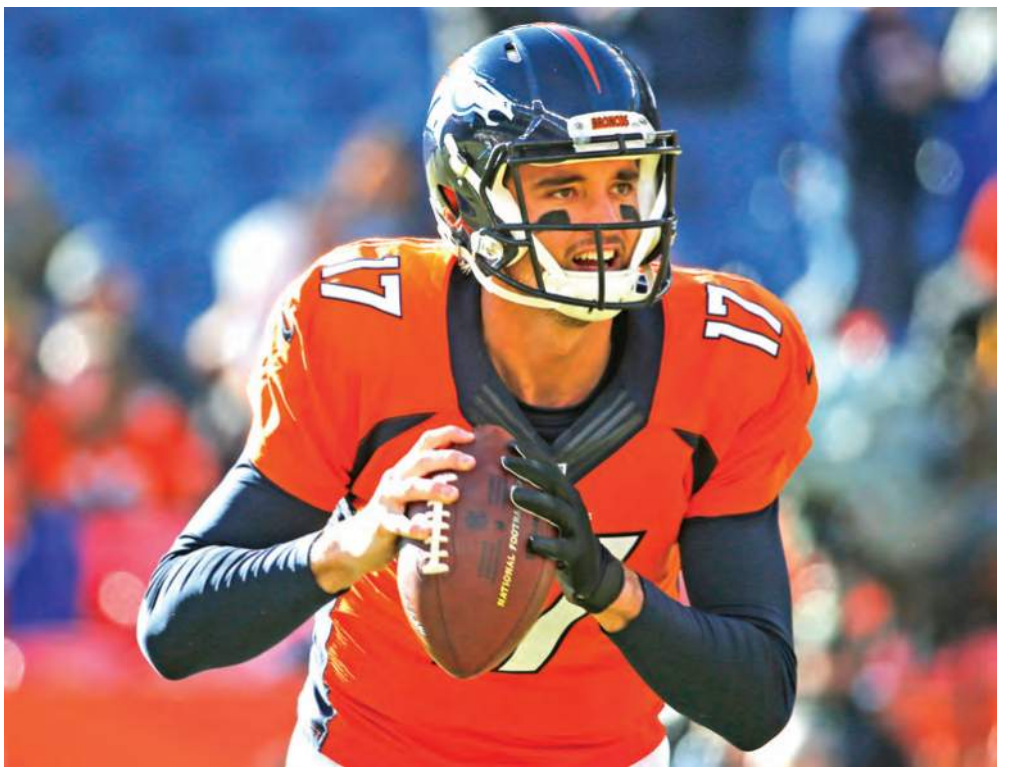
And the Super Bowl winner lost its second quarterback in less than a week, while the loser of the big game held on to two key performers.

With Peyton Manning retired, his supposed successor Brock Osweiler headed to Houston. Broncos defensive end Malik Jackson went to Jacksonville, and linebacker Danny Trevathan is now in Chicago. Denver clearly has been weakened.

At least Super Bowl MVP Von Miller has been franchise tagged and won't be going anywhere.

"We've stayed true to our philosophy of building a team of players who want to be Denver Broncos and want to be here. That's been a successful approach for us," general manager John Elway said.

"While we did offer a very competitive and fair long-term contract to Brock, we ultimately had to remain disciplined while continuing to assemble a roster that can compete for championships."



AP

In this Jan. 3, 2016, file photo, Denver Broncos quarterback Brock Osweiler warms up during the first half in an NFL football game against the San Diego Chargers, in Denver.

Osweiler appeared in eight games with seven starts last season for the Broncos. He started the last seven games of the regular season, but was benched in favor of Manning for the postseason.

But the 6-foot-7, 240-pound quarterback showed enough in that short stint after spending his first three pro seasons on the bench behind Manning that the Texans went all-in.

"It was very difficult," Osweiler said about leaving Denver. "I'd be lying to you if I said anything else. I had a tremendous four seasons there in Denver and those are four years that I'll always hold close to my heart. But bottom line coming to Houston was an opportunity that I couldn't pass up."

Carolina, which fell 24-10 to Denver in the Super Bowl, meanwhile retained All-Pro fullback Mike Tolbert and re-signed defensive end Charles Johnson to a lower salary Wednesday.

All-Pro running back Martin re-signed with the Buccaneers for five years. Center Mack chose Atlanta over Cleveland in other major moves.

Murray, the 2014 Offensive Player of the Year with Dallas, spent a fruitless season in Philadelphia and was traded Wednesday to the Titans. The teams swapped fourth-rounders, but the Eagles cleared Murray's hefty contract from the books.

Johnson, cut last week, received a one-year contract worth $3 million to return to the NFC champions, according to his agent, Drew Rosenhaus. He said Johnson turned down an offer in excess of $6 million from another team.

Johnson, 29, would have cost the Panthers $15 million in 2016 under the cap before he was cut.

"My heart was in Carolina," he said. "Once you put all that energy into it, I feel like I would have been wasting all that work had I gone somewhere else for some dollars. I'd rather be happy doing what I'm doing around people that I know, and I'm comfortable with. I can't wait to get back to work."

Johnson has played nine seasons with Carolina and his 63½ sacks are second most in franchise history, behind Julius Peppers' 81.

Tolbert also said he accepted fewer bucks to return to Carolina.

The top player at his position on the market, Martin will get more than $35 million, with $15 million guaranteed, from the Buccaneers. Martin, 27, has had two outstanding seasons with the Buccaneers and two injury-filled years. In 2015, he rushed for 1,402 yards, second in the NFL, and six touchdowns. His 4.87-yard average was the highest in team history.

"I've always saw myself as a Buc. I didn't think I was going anywhere else," Martin said.

Indianapolis released veteran receiver Andre Johnson.

Johnson was a mainstay in Houston for 12 years, making two All-Pro teams. But he was a disappointment with the Colts in his only season in Indy with 41 catches for 503 yards and four touchdowns. He caught 1,053 passes for 14,100 yards and 68 touchdowns, often as the only true receiving option for the Texans.

Mack, 30, opted out of his deal with the Browns and gets five years from the Falcons, who have had instability at center since longtime starter Todd McClure retired following the 2012 season.

"Competition is the central theme of the program and the way he plays, man, does he represent that," Falcons coach Dan Quinn said.

Headed to Miami was DE Mario Williams, and his signing after being released by Buffalo led to the Dolphins removing the transition tag from Olivier Vernon, who then agreed to terms with the Giants. The transition tag was for $12.734 million; Williams got $17 million over two years from Miami.

The 2006 No. 1 overall pick struggled last season in Rex Ryan's defense with the Bills, and even criticized how he was used.

SIDEBAR

Seahawks agree to terms with CB Lane

SEATTLE (AP)—Seahawks retained one of their key defensive starters by agreeing to terms with cornerback Jeremy Lane.

Lane and the Seahawks reached agreement on the deal on Wednesday night after the opening of free agency. Terms were not released by the team. NFL.com reported it was a four-year deal.

Lane quickly moved into the starting lineup opposite Richard Sherman last season after he finished recovering from serious arm and knee injuries suffered in Seattle's Super Bowl loss to New England. Lane's performance was impressive enough that Seattle benched and later cut veteran Cary Williams.

Lane appeared in six regular-season games and started both of Seattle's playoff games last season. Since being a sixth-round pick of the Seahawks in 2012, Lane has started six of 41 career games.

Lane suffered a serious broken arm and a torn ACL on the same play of Super Bowl 49 after he intercepted Tom Brady, but was injured as he was tackled near the sideline on the return. He started the 2015 season on the physically unable to perform list before returning in Week 12.

"It was tough watching because last year at Super Bowl time I knew I had a good opportunity before that game the next year that I would probably be the starting corner, but then I got hurt," Lane said after the season. "I knew it would be a long journey, but I never gave up and I finally got the opportunity and I'm grateful for it."

Lane becomes the second defensive starter the Seahawks have retained this week after locking up defensive tackle Ahtyba Rubin on a three-year contract on Monday.

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Chelsea eliminated in Champions League

LONDON (AP)—Zlatan Ibrahimovic demonstrated his enduring attacking threat Wednesday by steering Paris Saint-Germain into the Champions League quarterfinals with a goal and an assist in a 2-1 victory at Chelsea.

By replicating the first-leg triumph in the French capital last month, PSG eliminated Chelsea for the second successive season in the round of 16 but it is far more damaging for the London club this time.

Languishing in 10th place in the Premier League after a feeble title defense, Chelsea will almost certainly be out of the Champions League next season for the first time since Russian billionaire Roman Abramovich bought the club in 2003.

Although Chelsea conceded in the 16th minute when Ibrahimovic's cross was turned in by Adrien Rabiot, Diego Costa leveled 11 minutes later on his return from injury.

But Costa was forced off on the hour and Chelsea's hopes were deflated.

Ibrahimovic tapped in his 50th Champions League goal seven minutes later after being set up by Angel Di Maria on a sparkling night for the winger.

"They were letting us control the game," said Ibrahimovic, who was sent off here last season. "We are happy at the moment, but still not satisfied."

For the 34-year-old Sweden striker it was a timely goal with his PSG contract expiring at the end of the season while still -- like his club -- chasing a first Champions League title.

"You ask if he is able to reproduce (his domestic form) in the Champions League and he gave you his answer tonight," PSG coach Laurent Blanc told reporters through a translator. "He was able to keep the two opposition center backs occupied."

This was a dour final Champions League night at Stamford Bridge, which is to be rebuilt from 2017, forcing the 2012 European champions off the site until the next decade.

The team requires a rebuilding job in the transfer market under Jose Mourinho's permanent successor. Winger Eden Hazard booed as he was substituted injured in the second half, having once again failed to match last season's player-of-the-year exploits.

"Chelsea is now in a transition period ... to regain the loss terrain where Chelsea used to be," Hiddink said.

How Chelsea would relish the complete dominance of PSG. Sitting 23 points clear atop its league, the Qatar-owned French champions faced a rare test in west London.

Di Maria, who endured a miserable season at Manchester United before joining PSG last year, was a constant menace on his return to England. The Argentine tried to clip the ball past goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois after six minutes but Branislav Ivanovic cleared.

AP

PSG's Lucas controls the ball as he vies with Chelsea's Willian during the round of sixteen second leg Champions League soccer match between Chelsea and Paris Saint-Germain at Stamford Bridge stadium in London, Wednesday, March 9, 2016.

"He is able to change the tempo of play very quickly because he has excellent

vision," Blanc said. "Chelsea never knew where he was but we always knew where we could find him with the ball."

Di Maria was the architect of the opener, releasing Ibrahimovic on the left flank. The forward slid the ball across the face of goal to the far post where Rabiot evaded Ivanovic and slotted in.

But Costa, who removed his protective face mask early on, made PSG regret branding him a "fraud" in a jocular prematch Twitter video when he leveled in the 27th minute.

KANOA

From Page 32

Kadokura tallied one each. Max Church scored the lone goal for Paire.

BOYS U14
MPU 4, Matansa 1

MP United also triumphed in the boys U14 game at the Koblerville Elementary School Field last weekend after downing Matansa.

Miyawaki again led MPU with his pair of goals, while Oliver Lee and Go Sekiguchi logged one apiece. Lolobeyong Benito recorded the only goal for Matansa.

Kanoa 8, Shirley's 1

Kanoa registered its second lopsided victory last weekend after dominating Shirley's.

Sebastien Manabat starred in the win with his hat-trick. Joseph Rasa chipped in two goals, while Angelo Ada, Toves, and Ian Karl Maniago posted one apiece. Brandon Tenorio averted a shutdown for Shirley's after scoring in the second half.

Tan Holdings 6, Paire 2

Tan Holdings drew goals from four different players to beat Paire.

John Michael Rojas and Thaiphi Austria registered two goals each, while John Paul Cruz and Joshua Waldo had one apiece. Jamin Elliot and Kaden Church logged one goal each for Paire.

GIRLS U15
Kanoa 5, MP United 2

Over at the San Antonio Middle School Field, Kanoa outclassed MP United.

Joyce powered Kanoa to victory after scoring three goals. Ericka Santiago and Kristelle Itaas nailed the two other goals for Kanoa, which moved up to second place in the team standings with its 3-0-1 record, behind the unbeaten Shirley's (3-0-0)

Matansa 4, Paire 0

In the other girls match, Matansa shut down Paire.

Lyka Sally had a double for Matansa, which got one goal each from Sunny Woo and Barbara Peteru.

The third game in the division featuring Shirley's FC and Tan Holdings was rescheduled.

BOYS U17
Kanoa 2, Paire 0

Kanoa barged into the win column in the division after beating Paire.

Ian Karl Maniago and Andruw Omelau hit the board for Kanoa, which dropped its first two games before topping Paire (1-0-2).

Matansa 2, Tan Holdings 0

Matansa took the solo lead following a victory over Tan Holdings.

James Ermitanio and Jun Sik Kim registered one goal apiece for Matansa, which now has a 3-0-1 record to grab the upper hand from MP United (2-0-1).

YOUNG

From Page 31

Shirley's adding 8 more points, while John Jugos came off the bench and made all his 7 markers to secure the easy victory for their team.

Gary Norial paced GPPC's losing cause with his 17 markers.

In the second game, Blue Haus outclassed JP World, 63-55.

Elmer Esdrelon led the victory, as he drilled 21 points. Junar Guiab and Angelo Fernando provided support to Esdrelon after logging 14 and 12 points, respectively. The three alternately hit baskets in the fourth quarter to prevent JP World from overhauling Blue Haus' lead.

Lerio Pagarao had 21 points for JP World, which drew contributions from only five players and fell short in its comeback bid after behind held to 9 markers in the final canto.

First Game

Shirley's 82—Duenas 23, Rabasto 22, Inos 15, De Guzman 14, Jugos 7, Dela Rosa 2, Pamintuan 2.

GPPC 69—Norial 17, Ocampo 14, Mungcal 13, Sampang 12, Advincula 4, Tagle 3, Corpuz 2.

Scoring by quarters: 26-15, 41-31, 59-45, 82-69.

Second Game

Blue Haus 63—Esdrelon 21, Guiab 14, Fernando 12, Talania 6, Barbo 6, Santos 2, Manalo 2.

JP World 55—Pagarao 21, Barrios 15, Villacrusis 9, Borja 6, Mangali 4.

Scoring by quarters: 15-16, 24-28, 48-46, 63-55.

SOUTH

From Page 32

"There are four different city teams that competed in Tagaman. Usually, some members of our team come here on Saipan only to train and not join in any of the events," said Won through an interpreter.

Won was a former swimmer and moved to triathlon after his mandatory military service in the South Korean Armed Forces.

"It's my first time here and it's very hot this time of the year. I found the run leg as the most challenging part of the race. It was really hard running under the sun," said Won, who survived the 86°F-temperatures last Saturday.

Park, meanwhile, competed in his 19th and 17th straight Tagaman en route to completing his 200th triathlon event. The 49-year-old conquered the Olympic distance event in 3:17:53 to finish fifth in the 45-49 age group.

He said he first competed in Tagaman in 1993 and again from 2000 up to the present.

"I really liked the course the first time I competed here that's why I've been coming back," said the Yeoju City native Park, who is also coaching other triathletes.

He began competing in triathlon events in his early 20s and turned pro during the Asian Championships when he was 24.

Gyu Ri Kim, who was part of Korea's mixed relay team that won a silver medal in the 2014 Incheon Asian Games, topped the Olympic distance with a time of 2:19:53.

Won, Park, Cho, Choi, Kim, and 11 other Koreans competed in Tagaman this year.

PROS

From Page 32

with this race and survive the course, you know you are ready for the entire triathlon season and you're hard as a rock," said Bucher, who will be gunning for her eighth title in XTERRA's Crown Jewel.

Bucher, Carey, and Hadden are coming into this weekend's XTERRA Saipan with little recovery time after completing the Half Ironman course in last Saturday's Tagaman Triatlon, while Wasle had about three weeks of rest, heading into tomorrow's race. Wasle, who targets her second title after ruling the event in 2014, is hoping the breather will work to her advantage as she tackles the risky course.

"I hope I save enough energy to last this challenging course, especially the run part," said Wasle, who was the fastest female in the 12K run course and the only one to time in under one hour last year after submitting 58:31.

"As for the bike course, I hope and pray for a crash free race, but you'll never know, so I really have to be very careful," added the Austrian, who has a history of bad crashes in the bike course in the past XTERRA Saipan race.

Both the bike and run courses will pose threats to pros and amateur triathletes' bid to complete the race, as remnants of the damage caused by Typhoon Soudelor can still be seen along the trails at the northern parts of the island (Tapochao, Navy Hill, and Chinatown). However, majority of the trails have been cleared, thanks to Bobbi Grizzard and other volunteers. Markers are also everywhere with blue arrows for the 30K bike course and red for the run part. The 1.5-kilometer swim leg will not be a problem, as it will take place at the calm waters off Micro Beach.

Meanwhile, in the men's division, only three pros will battle for the crown. Filipino pro Joe Miller leads the short list and will be joined by Japan's Takahiro Ogasawara and South Korea's Kaon Cho.

Miller placed sixth among eight pros in last year's XTERRA Saipan and though this year there are lesser competitors, the task of completing and winning the event will neither be easier nor harder.

"You can't tell if this year's race will be easier or harder for us. The results are unpredictable and it will depend on the race condition that day. We all have equal chances to win the race," Miller said.

Young guns power Shirley's past GPPC

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Shirley's Coffee Shop whipped GPPC, 82-69, during the curtain-raiser in the 2016 Emon Lodge No. 179 Brotherhood/IT&E Basketball League last Wednesday at the Civic Center Basketball Court.

Young guns Matt Duenas and Sean Rabasto towed Shirley's to the twin-digit winning margin as they combined for more than half of the team's total production. Duenas fired 23 points, while Rabasto added 22. Two other Shirley's players finished in double figures with Perry Inos tallying 15 and Jaymark De Guzman contributing 14.

Duenas, Rabasto, Inos, and De Guzman teamed up for 23 points in the opening quarter to lift Shirley's to 26-15 advantage. Shirley's never relinquished the double-digit spread at the end of the three remaining periods as Duenas and Rabasto were still on target and Inos and De Guzman backed them up.

Rabasto started the second canto with a triple, while Duenas knocked in 6 of the team's last 8 points in that frame for a 41-31 halftime lead. Then in the third quarter, it was Inos' turn to work with Duenas, as they totaled for 12 points to stretch Shirley's advantage to 14, 59-45.

Rabasto closed out for

See YOUNG on Page 30

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Sean Rabasto, seen here going for a layup against an Armatech defender, scored 22 points in Shirley's 82-69 win over GPPC in the Emon Lodge caging last Wednesday at the Civic Center Basketball Court.

Edralin, Savellano post closest win

SAVELLANO

EDRALIN

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Four games in Day 2 of the IT&E Doubles and Mixed Doubles Badminton Competition 2016 went the distance with the pair of Deether Edralin and Jenine Savellano recording one of them and registering the toughest win in last Saturday's action at the TSL Sports Complex.

Edralin and Savellano faltered in the extended opening game against Daniel Macario and Hannah Choi, 22-24, in the mixed doubles A, but remained in contention after pulling off a 22-20 victory in the second. In the third game, the opposing teams went back and forth before Savellano and Edralin escaped with a 21-18 triumph.

Edralin and Savellano played twice in Day 2 with their other match done after only two games as they swept Hapi Gabriel and Marlene Peraja, 21-9, 21-9.

Meanwhile, other pairs who earned victories in three games were Glenn Buultjens and Nathan Guerrero, Patrick Fernandez and Vilma Reyes, and Oh Im Boh and Rowena Sison.

Oh and Sison fell to Jeff Riman and Loida Ito in the first game, 20-22, in the mixed doubles B, but grabbed the win after prevailing in the last two, 21-16, 21-10. Reyes and Fernandez played in the mixed doubles C and slipped past Hajin Oh and Miles Rodriguez, 21-5, 17-21, 21-15. In the men's doubles AB, Buultjens and Guerrero edged Jordan Pangilinan and Joel Ortega, 21-15, 14-21, 21-19.

In the two other mixed doubles AB matches, Macario and Oh Im Boh and Andreau Galvez and Rodwealth Espana took only two games to dispatch their respective foes. Oh Im Boh and Macario dominated Macoi Aguda and Chris Hilario, 21-16, 21-14, while Espana and Galvez won over Patrick Jake Fieldad and Edwin Montoya, 21-13, 21-10.

Espana got his second victory in Day 2 as he paired with Shirley Kim in beating Montoya and Jaja Bocago in the mixed doubles B, 21-18, 21-15. Hilario, on the other hand, won his other match as he teamed up with Windy Fernandez in defeating Father Charlie Borja and Elna Curate, 21-14, 21-15, in the mixed doubles B tiff.

In other results, Malou Malasarte went 2-for-2 last Saturday, recording her first win in the women's doubles A as she and daughter Nicole topped Kim and Pereja, 21-15, 24-22. Malou's other victory came in the mixed doubles A when she and Galvez swept Buultjens and Sison, 21-15, 21-14.

Completing the list of winners in Day 2 were Jun Lee and Joel Ortega, Julie Lee and Erica Jung, and Henry and Hajin Oh.

SGA February Ace on Sunday

The Saipan Golfers Association will be having its February Ace of the Month tournament this Sunday, March 13, on the west course of Laolao Bay Golf & Resort. Show time and registration is at 9am, while tee time starts at 10am.

Gregorio Sablan Jr. earned the first monthly ace of SGA by shooting a 73 last Jan. 17, which was also the final day of their Ace of Aces tournament. He beat Jess Castro (74) by one shot.

Sablan had a gross score of 91 after rounds of 51 and 40, and with an 18 handicap he ended up with a 73 net. He was also the winner of SGA's yearend tournament to complete his back-to-back title bid.

Sablan, who qualified in the Ace of Aces for winning the October monthly crown, joined two other SGA two-time champions Jung Eun Teack (2001, 2013) and Jose S. Demapan (2005, 2008). He is the only first back-to-back title holder.

Attorney General Edward Manibusan finished with the third best net score with a 76, while Commonwealth Cancer Association program manager Juan L. Babauta, Jung and Nick Sablan ended up tied from fourth to sixth places with 77s, and John "Nanni" Cruz was at seventh with a 78. ***(JVP)***

MGA to hold Festpac fundraiser

The Marianas Golf Association will be holding a fundraising golf tournament for the benefit of the CNMI delegation to the 12th Festival of Pacific Arts in Guam this May. The golf fundraiser is set on April 16 at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort.

MGA member James Benavente is encouraging all golfers to support the tournament as proceeds will help fund the CNMI delegation's trip to the quadrennial festival. Details of the fundraiser will be finalized in today's meeting of the golf committee.

The Festival of Pacific Arts is set from May 22 to June 4 at the Paseo de Susana Park in Hagatna. More than 2,500 performers, artists, and other cultural practitioners are expected to arrive aside from tourists and visitors from Asia.

American Samoa, Australia, the Cook Islands, Easter Island, the Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, French Polynesia, the State of Hawaii, Kiribati, the Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Niue, Norfolk Island, Northern Mariana Islands, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Pitcairn Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, and Wallis and Futuna are the Pacific Island countries and territories expected to join the festival.

In related golf news, Joey Dela Cruz bested 30 other MGA members to win the club's January Ace of the Month held at Laolao Bay Golf & Resort's east course. He shot rounds of 39 and 36 for a gross score of 75, but ended with a 68 net after his 7 handicap.

Newly elected MGA handicap director Jay Muna finished with a 78 (39 and 40) and his 8 handicap earned him a 71. He was also the 2015 Ace of Aces champion after shooting a pair of 71s (142). Former MGA president J.J. Atalig was third with a 76 (39, 37) and the 3-handicapper ended up with a net 73.

Closest to the pin winners were new club president Dung Tenorio at No. 4, vice president Mike Sablan at No. 6, Ron Benavente at No. 11, and Tony Guerrero at No. 15.

Aaron Benavente (secretary), Shine Tenorio (treasurer), and Calvin Yamagishi (tournament director) are the other new MGA officers. ***(Jon Perez)***

Curry 55-foot buzzer beater highlights Warriors win

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Edralin, Savellano post closest win

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Pros brace for treacherous course

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Professional triathletes are up for an unforgiving course in the 2016 XTERRA Saipan Championship.

No thanks to Typhoon Soudelor, which altered some parts of the bike and run trails, making the already challenging course even more dangerous.

"I checked the run course with some Saipan friends and it was very slippery. One wrong move and you could get injured and you are done with your race," said Mieko Carey in an interview with *Saipan Tribune* after yesterday's press conference at Kanoa Resort.

"I've been racing XTERRA for more than 10 years and this year probably will be the most challenging after Typhoon Soudelor hit Saipan in August. I really have to be very careful, especially when going to the run trail," said Carey, who will be battling the women's division crown of tomorrow's off-road triathlon against Australia's Belinda Hadden, Switzerland's Renata Bucher, and Austria's Carina Wasle.

Hadden and Bucher also visited the bike and run courses in preparation for this Saturday's race and both agreed their hands and feet will be very busy as they negotiate the up and downhill trails.

"We have to be very careful and use our hands and feet to make sure of our movements along the trails," said Hadden, who will be racing in XTERRA Saipan for the second time after a sixth place finish in her debut last year.

"This is a crazy course and is made even more challenging by the typhoon that hit Saipan. When you're done

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
The pros pose for a group photo after the press conference for the 2016 XTERRA Saipan Championship yesterday at the Kanoa Resort.

South Koreans achieve milestones in Tagaman

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Jae Yun Won ruled the 2016 edition of the Tagaman, while perennial competitor Yu Hun Park finished his 200th triathlon, making Team Korea's experience in Saipan's longest-running multisport event a momentous one.

The 29-year-old Won, competing for the first time in the Tagaman, finished the 70.3-mile course in 4:41:35 to beat three other compatriots in the men's pro/elite division. Kaon Cho beat Gyu Seo Choi by four seconds, 4:50:47 to 4:50:51, to clinch second place.

Won is part of a nine-member Tongyeong City Triathlon team that competed in the Tagaman. He said that Tongyeong City is considered as one of the best teams in the country after three of their members are selected on the South Korean National Triathlon squad.

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
South Korean triathletes lead in the early part of the bike leg of last Saturday's Tagaman Triathlon.

Saipan Sportsfest
TAGAMAN
SAIPAN

Lopsided wins for MPU, Kanoa

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Northern Mariana Islands Football Association

MP United and Kanoa won the pair of one-sided games in the co-ed U12 division of the 2016 NMIFA Youth Spring League last Saturday at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.

Kanoa whipped Tan Holdings, 8-1, while MPU demolished Paire, 10-1. With their victories, MP United and Kanoa kept the Top 2 spots in the team standings after improving to 4-0-0 and 2-0-2 win-draw-loss records. Tan Holdings and Paire have similar 1-0-3 marks.

Ian Lubao scored two goals in Kanoa's easy win, while Merrick Toves, Lee Roy Villagomez, Andrew Sablan, Paulyn Joyce, Brian Lubao, Wayne Lizama, and Lester Bata chipped in one goal apiece.

In the MPU-Paire tiff, Rintaro Miyawaki had four goals for the former, while Rohan Basnet and Andrew Chung contributed two apiece, and Dylan Kim and Akira

See KANOA on Page 30

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Two Kanoa Football Club defenders tries to keep up with a Tan Holdings player during their first meeting in the co-ed U12 division of the NMIFA youth league at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.